

# The Shakerite

**REVIEWS**

SNL's Molly Shannon stars in *Superstar*, a movie scheduled for release Oct. 8. Get a sneak peak this month in *The Shakerite*. A&E, Page 11



Sept. 30, 1999 • Volume 70 • Issue 1 • Shaker Heights High School • 15911 Aldersyde Drive • Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

## SGORR limits membership to increase effectiveness

• Race relations group cuts upperclassmen from try-outs to compact club

By **Stephanie Gabarik**  
Layout editor

Upperclassmen who hoped to join the Student Group On Race Relations this year were disappointed to learn that only freshmen would be admitted due to concerns about overcrowded elementary school visits.

Elementary school administrators recently asked SGORR adviser Marcia Jaffe to bring fewer students into the elementary classrooms. With 12 or 13 SGORR members per group, and 25 elementary students, the rooms became crowded.

"I couldn't join SGORR last year because I had to go to football practice at the same time of the tryout," sophomore Jay Gladden said. "I'm disappointed. I wanted to join, now my opportunity is gone."

SGORR was founded in 1983 by a group of concerned students. They believed that the interracial friendships made



Jaffe

in elementary school did not withstand the transition to the middle and high schools. Now, the group, which began with 15 members, has grown to more than 300.

Three times a year, SGORR members visit Shaker's elementary schools and meet with fourth and sixth grade classes. The high-school students encourage racial unity, promote acceptance of others and help the kids learn how to cut racial boundaries. Each SGORR group has one Core leader and 10 to 12 members. Only one group meets with each class, and each group visits the same class all year.

According to Jaffe, 12 or 13 member SGORR groups pose "an amazing amount of work," for Core leaders, who organize their groups' efforts. Core members meet every Sunday from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. as well as once a week with their groups.

In response to that workload and to overcrowded classrooms, Jaffe and Core leaders took measures to limit the number of groups and students in them. Thus, SGORR accepted only freshman into groups this year.

"There [was] no representation of the SEE SGORR, PAGE 2

## BACKPACKS CARRY A HEAVY PRICE

• Overstuffed and low-slung, portable lockers strain muscles

By **Rachel Hutt**  
Copy editor

Circle the answer that best describes you.

1. Which hurts the most? A) your stomach after a cafeteria lunch B) your brain after math class C) your back after lugging your backpack to the third floor.

2. You get your best exercise from A) running the mile in P.E. B) pushing buttons on calculator games. C) walking home carrying every textbook you own in your backpack.

3. When you get home, the first thing you do is A) get a snack. B) watch TV. C) ice your shoulders, which are red from the straps of your backpack.

If you answered "C" to any of these questions, you are probably among an increasing number of students who suffer backpack-related injuries. The Aug. 16 issue of *Advance Magazine* cites a 1996 study "which re-

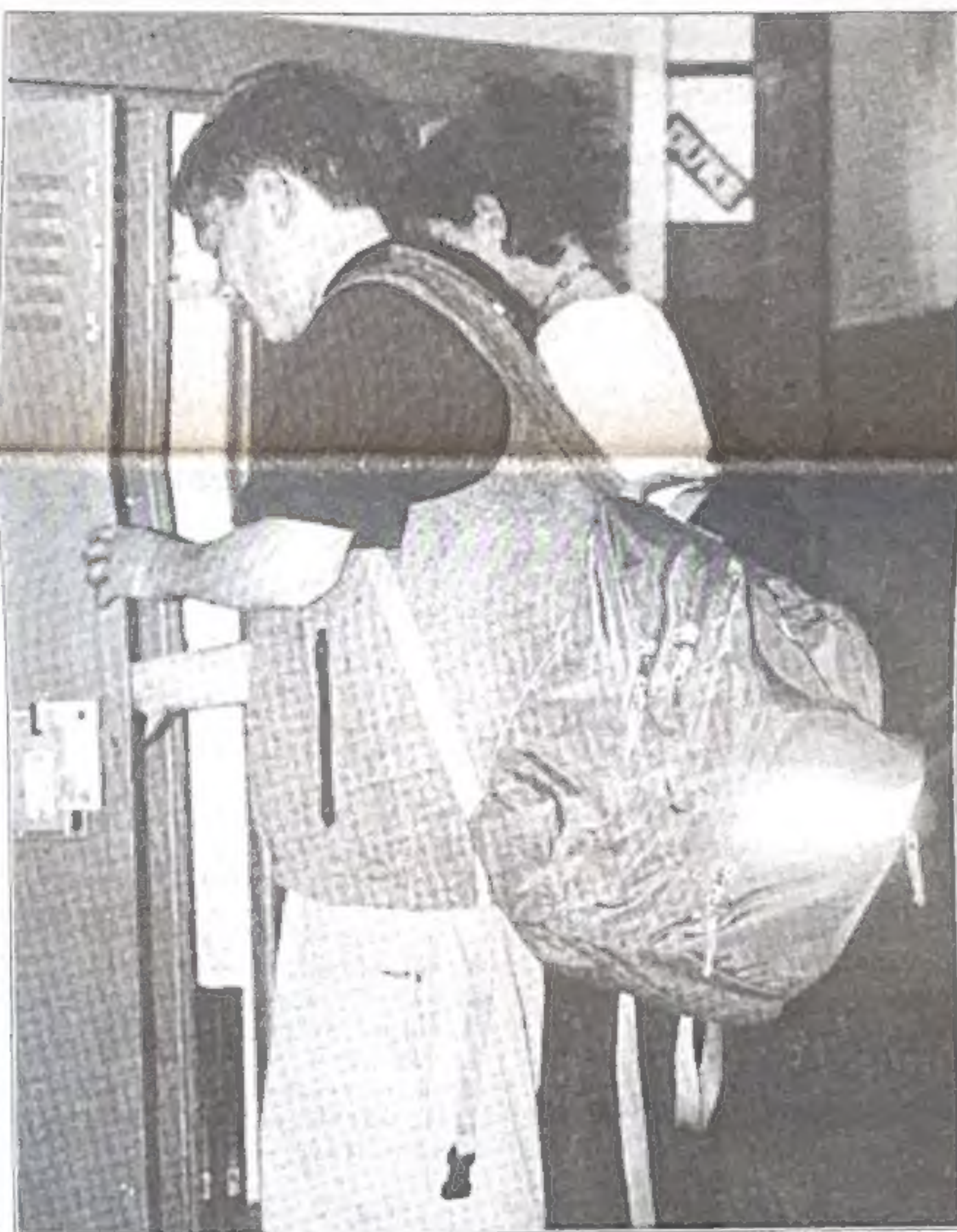
ported a 30 percent increase in nontraumatic back pain in children under the age of 18." In addition, the Consumer Products Safety Commission released a report in December 1998 blaming book bags for an estimated 3,300 emergency room visits by kids ages 5-14.

These trends haven't bypassed the high school.

"Oh yeah, it hurts pretty bad," junior Josh Hirshman said, who can be seen carrying a bright yellow, overstuffed camping backpack.

School nurse Evelyn Wisham said she often encounters students complaining of sore backs, necks and shoulders.

"My first question is always about how heavy the backpack is," she said. Wisham often weighs students' backpacks to find out just how heavy they are. While she recommends that the SEE BACKS, PAGE 2



Freshman Tim Bartley reloads his backpack at his locker after a long day at school. His backpack hangs low on his back, a style researchers point to as a cause of long term damage.

## Head injuries render athletes forgetful

By **Allison Pollock**  
Co-editor in chief

Ever count how many times players are tackled in a football game? Or how many times athletes head a soccer ball?

A new study by the *Journal of American Medicine* reveals that counting such events might not be a bad idea. According to the report, head-on-head collisions in football and heading the ball in soccer might cause athletes to see stars — and then forget them.

The study, released in early August, tested athletes from 235 high schools across the country. Results showed that due to head contact, athletes who play football and soccer have a 20-40 percent more difficult time planning and remembering than participants in other sports.

Senior women's soccer player Emily Ackerman said that players probably get hit in the head with the ball four to five times each practice. Most teammates, she said, have had a concussion sometime in their careers, but none this season. Shaker athletic trainer Bob Collins noticed a relatively small number of concussions occurring at the high school.

"We have a lot of kids that get hit on the head here in Shaker, but we don't have a significant number of concussions," he said.

However, Collins and Ackerman both believe more damage is done to football players than soccer players.

"There are definitely more head injuries in football due to bad tackling or tackling with the head. Many players are dazed and have to sit out for a game or two," Collins said.

Junior football player Mike Moore said the concussions he's sustained have not affected his memory or planning skills.

"I have had at least two concussions playing football, but Trainer Bob and the coaches have taken care of me. I don't have trouble planning or remembering, though," Moore said.

Many times, soccer players hit the ball with their head the wrong way. "If you head the ball the correct way you should not lose any brain cells or injure yourself," Ackerman said.

According to the study, it's not the heading of the ball that is most dangerous — it's the head-on collisions between players.

"I get headaches after games and sometimes from heading the ball. I have also smacked heads with other players. I think the study is accurate, at least in my case. I have a terrible time remembering tasks and homework," junior soccer player Steve Wilson said.

Dan Woodcock contributed to this article.

"I think the study is accurate, at least in my case."

STEVE WILSON  
junior

## REMEMBERING A LEADER LOST

At a memorial for the life of A. Jack Rumbaugh, a commemorative plaque was presented. The plaque quotes Henry Adams: "A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." Rumbaugh was principal of the high school for 12 years.

A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.  
Henry Adams

In memory of  
A. JACK RUMBAUGH, Ph.D.  
Principal of  
Shaker Heights High School  
1987 - 1999



Alex Cole/The Shakerite

Allison Pollock

**get OUT!** Summer fun ends but there's still plenty to do.

Oct. 3, 7:30 a.m.

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Justin Gurney



# Renovations, expansion slated for Shaker Square

• Historically significant facade will be preserved while interior is modernized

By Meghan Dubyak and Karen Jenks  
News Co-editors

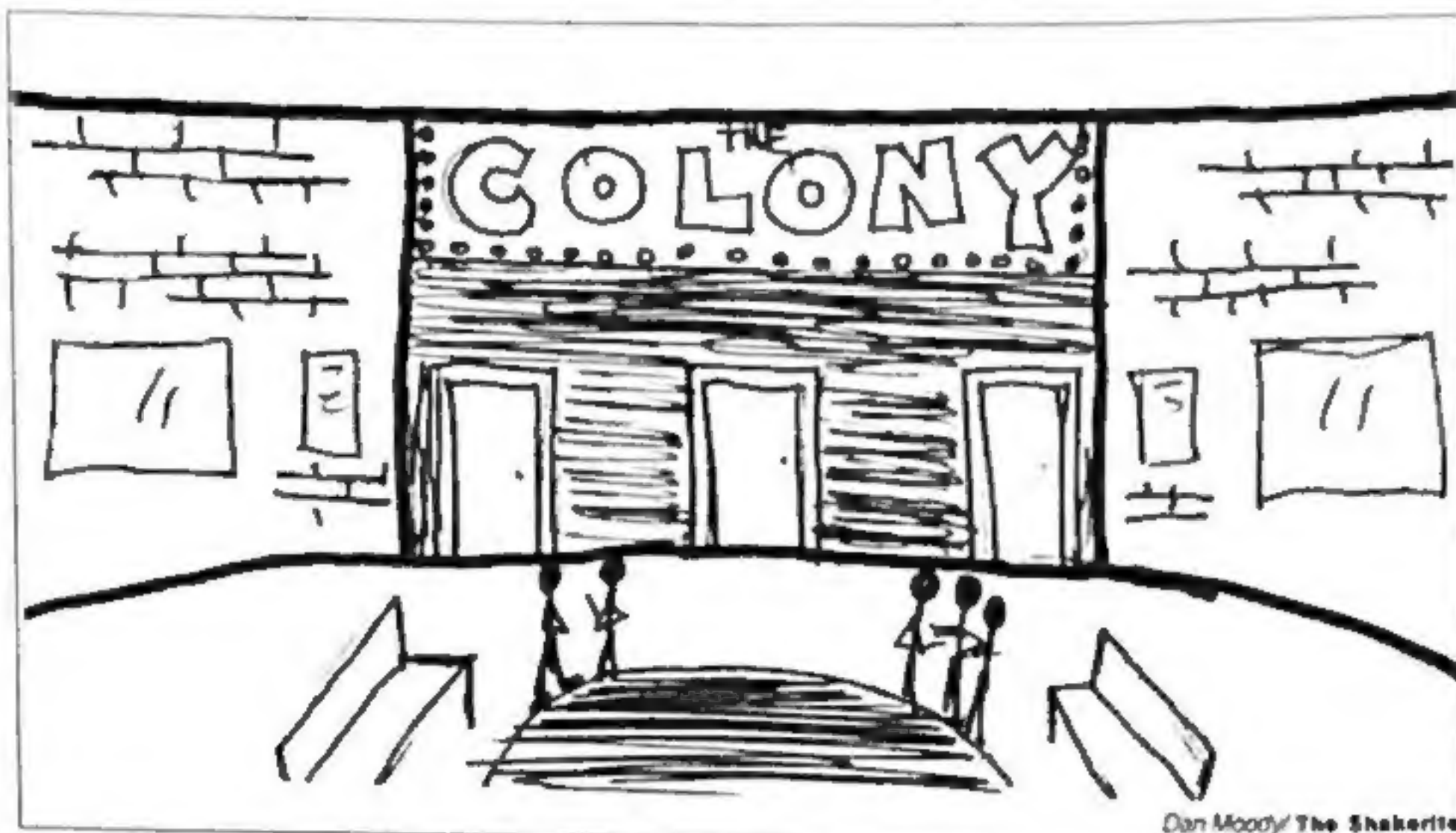
On Sept. 15, Shaker Square was purchased by a group of local real-estate investors who are planning a \$20 million rejuvenation of the Square.

Randy Ruttenberg, head of the investment group, and Adam Fishman, managing partner of Shaker Square, Ltd., bought the Square from Larry Albert, who has owned it since 1978.

"The general feeling of the square will be no different, but there will be many changes," said former Square owner Larry Albert.

Ruttenberg and Fishman, who currently are partners of Center Point Properties in Beachwood, hope to make redevelopments that would include a two-story bookstore with a restaurant.

Also, he would like more screens added to the Colony Theater and a Wild Oats Market that would feature prepared food, an outdoor café and organically grown vegetables. Students, on the



The Colony Theater, like many of the surrounding buildings in Shaker Square, is scheduled for interior renovations soon. Architects will add another few screens and some party rooms.

whole, are enthusiastic about the prospective development.

"It's a much needed improvement," senior Audie Simon said. "It's a kind of suburban revitalization."

"It could make [the Square] too commercial, but I think it would be a good thing to add more stores," junior DaNeisha McCray said.

"It would be nice to modernize it a little, but not too much," freshman Dylan Fallon said.

According to Albert, the future holds the hope of stores that would attract more visitors to the popular rapid stop and landmark.

"In the future, we are looking to broaden the horizon [of patrons]," Albert said.

Some Shaker students feel that the Square currently does not attract young people.

"It's kind of dull at night," senior Stephanie Heaney said. "No one

goes to Arabica anymore because it's now non-smoking, and half of their clientele went there to smoke."

"There's nothing else to do there and nowhere to hang out after movies," Heaney said.

Albert hopes that the developments will help to improve Shaker Square make visitors happier.

"The changes will cause the Square to become something very special," Albert said.

## SGORR

**FROM PAGE 1**  
freshman class, because we were in excess of students. We had to cut down, but still wanted to represent freshmen," said junior Core member Andy Malloy.

To accommodate excess students, an auxiliary group, SGORR Extended, will provide all Shaker students with opportunities for participation, Jaffe said. This was created after freshmen impressed Jaffe and Core leaders during SGORR tryouts.

On Sept. 1, a dialogue session was opened to any prospective SGORR freshman. Freshmen were asked eight questions, and from these responses approximately 48 students were chosen. Questions such as "Do you think race affects sports choices?" gave the freshmen an opportunity to show SGORR Core members their views on racism. Prospective members who possess a unique look on racism are chosen to be SGORR members.

Jaffe noted the way the freshman opened up without upperclassmen, and believes they felt more comfortable speaking their minds without the older students' shadow.

Jaffe and SGORR members will hold an open discussion for SGORR Extended Oct. 26. All interested freshmen, SGORR assigned or not, are eligible to attend. Eventually, upperclassmen will

•30 students from SGORR will speak about respect as it applies to self-esteem

•Nov. 13 and 14  
•Time: 1:00 pm  
•Court TV, Cable

also be able to participate.

Judging by the number of students trying out each year and Shaker's level of racial awareness, Jaffe believes SGORR has served its purpose to many students.

"There's always concern about how to maintain quality as you expand size," said Jaffe, who makes yearly reorganization efforts.

This year, each Core leader has one group split between two elementary classes. Only Core leaders will visit both classes, which ensures that only six or seven people will be in each classroom.

"As long as there is at least one person for each group of kids, it'll be fine," junior SGORR member Matt Corrigan said.

## BACKS

**FROM PAGE 1**  
backpack be no heavier than 10 to 15 percent of the student's weight, she has found backpacks that add up to 25 percent of the owner's weight.

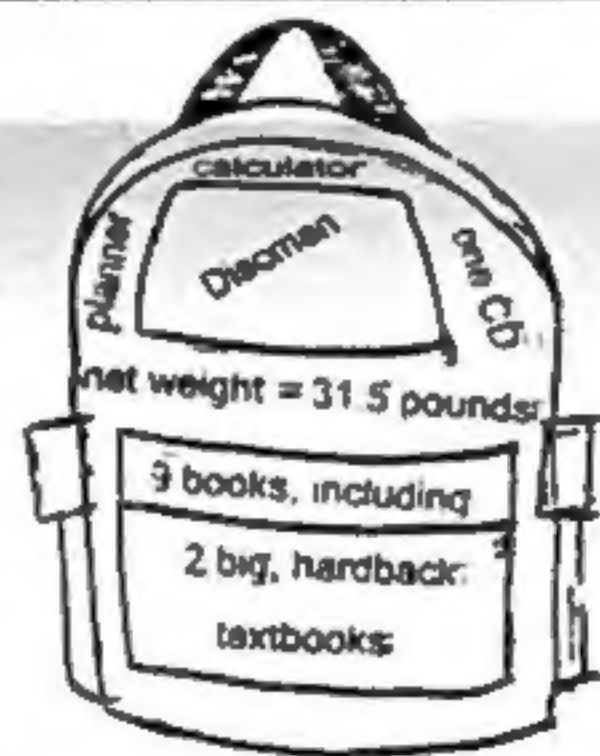
Hirshman's backpack, which doubles as his locker, weighs 31.5 pounds.

Backpack manufacturers have noted the strain that is placed on students' backs, necks, and shoulders, and have responded with new packs designed to ease the loads.

Another solution is to modify the wearing of backpacks. While it may be stylish to wear a backpack low down, this puts unnecessary strain on the back and shoulders, said physical therapist Paula Nicoletti.

"When you tighten [the backpack] up and it becomes part of your back, it's much less strenuous," Nicoletti said.

In addition to wearing the backpack higher, it is important to use both straps, Wisham said.



Junior Kate Donato said although she wears her backpack relatively high on her back, it is still uncomfortable. "[It's] all that homework I have to take home," she said.

Donato explains that she can only stop at her third floor locker once during the day. She said that more time would help the situation.

Wisham disagrees. "Students are just too lazy," she said.

In her view, solving the backpack blues simply takes some organization.

"[The students] will tell you they feel better but [stopping at their lockers] takes more time," she said. "It's a trade-off."

## Architect proposes fire station plan

Over the summer, nationally acclaimed architect Robert A. M. Stern submitted a proposal to design the new fire station in the north parking lot of City Hall. Stern is the dean of Yale University's School of Architecture, and is eager to have his design accepted. If approved, he will work with Gary Snyder from Architectural Resources Corporation, who has already been contracted to design the fire station. Three local volunteer architects are already advising the building and design of the fire station: Vince Leskosky, from the Shaker Heights Landmark Commission; Richard Levitz, a member of the Strategic Investment Plan Commercial/Retail Task Force; and Jim Neville, who works on the Architectural Board of Review.

news  
BRIEFS

Karen Jenks

## College acceptance rates cause worry

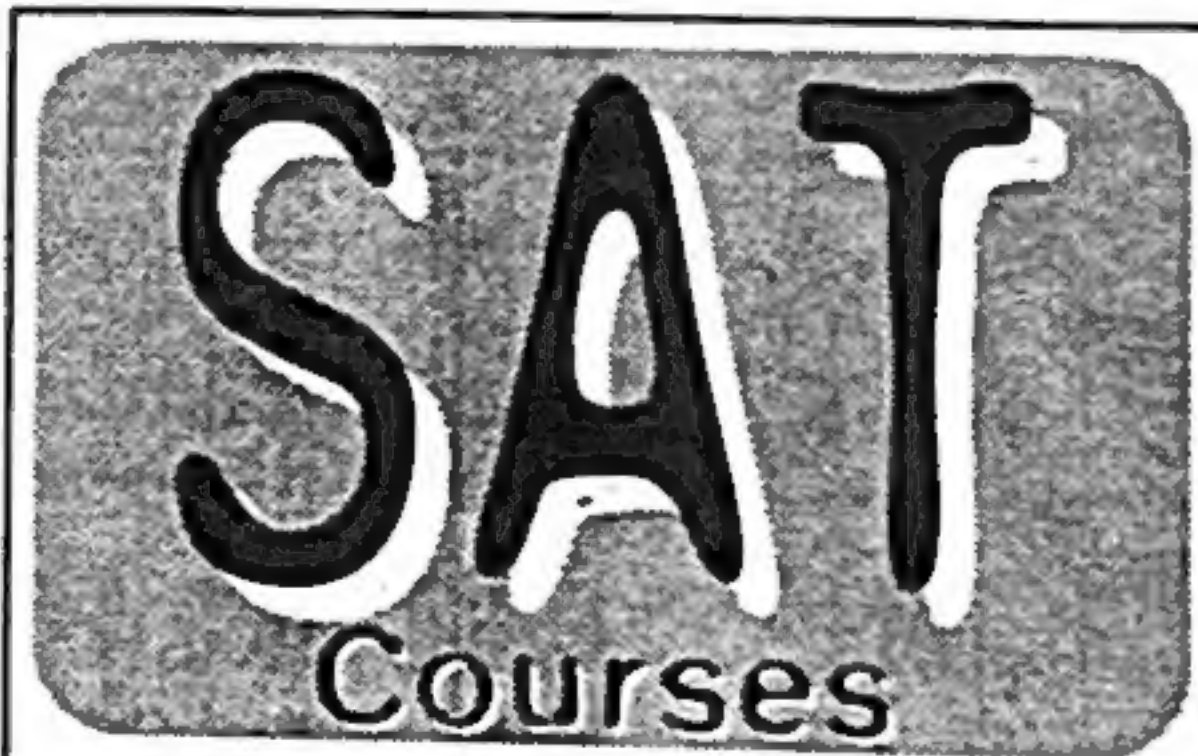
As seniors prepare their first college applications for rapidly approaching deadlines, many are worried about each college's reported acceptance rate. Rumors have stated that in the past 30 years acceptance has grown more competitive, due to the increased number of applicants and their qualifications. However, a small survey done by the Hampton-Sydney College, a private all-male college in Virginia, reports that college acceptance rates are, for the most part, relatively stable. Among the 13 colleges surveyed, only six have experienced drops in their acceptance rates since 1964. Their average decrease was only 7.6 percent, while the other seven experienced an increase average of 15.8 percent.

Karen Jenks

## 3rd annual 24 Hour Relay changes date to spring

A committee of seven or eight students and adults, led by football equipment manager Ken Kangas, has decided to postpone the third annual 24 hour relay. Usually held in late September or early October, the relay is a chance for students and their families to form teams and run, jog or walk for 24 hours on a track. They are sponsored and the event becomes both a fundraiser and a source of community service hours. The relay has been tentatively scheduled for June 9, 2000, the Friday after Commencement. "In the fall time kids are too busy with music and sports, and it's too difficult to get volunteers," said Kangas, who is a parent of two high school students. "The June date will ensure that people have no other commitments - sports are done, kids haven't left for summer camps yet, so it's an ideal time. The buildings will be wide open, and it won't interfere with school." The committee has a meeting scheduled in November, and advertising efforts will begin in January.

Karen Jenks



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# Search for new principal continues

• Twelfth grade Unit Principal Mitchell serves as interim while district and firm hunt

Debra Kamin  
Staff reporter

A national search is currently underway in Shaker Heights to find a new and permanent principal for the high school.

The Shaker Heights school district is preparing to find a new high school principal. They are planning to search with a yet-to-be-determined professional firm.

For this year, Jerry Mitchell will serve as interim principal, as well as maintaining his duties as Class of 2000 assistant principal.

Mitchell said that the support of the community and the school has helped him in taking on his new duties.

"I know the students and the staff after being here for four years," he said.

"Everyone is supportive," Mitchell said, "from the superintendent to parents to the community to the students themselves."

When the district chooses a firm to work with, they will use the professional input as well as faculty and community input to create a list of criteria.

"It's our expectation that the firm we choose will cast a very wide net so that we will end up with strong candidates," said Peggy Caldwell, director of communications.

Some possible candidates have already been identified.

Top administrators are still looking both informally and at meetings of organizations such as the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the American Association of School Administrators.

The new principal will most likely be hired in spring of 2000.

"Typically, contracts are signed in March, April or May," Caldwell said.

"But if the right person emerges," she said, "it's not to say that action might not be taken sooner."

A possible candidate for

principal must have several qualities, according to Caldwell.

A few examples of these criteria include an earned doctorate and an ability to work in a diverse environment.

A commitment to strong AP and Honors programs and a strong commitment to the arts

are also criteria.

Students and faculty alike are pleased with Mitchell and have high expectations for the future, but they are not forgetting the acts and dedication of their old principal.

"[Administrators] should try to look for a candidate who has the same ideals as Dr. Rumbaugh, because it seems like every student I've ever talked to has been affected and touched by him," sophomore Faye Gleisser said.

No candidate is being overlooked

*"I hope [our new principal] is not by the book and is not stationary. I hope that he knows himself."*

KAREEMAH LUMPKIN  
junior



Interim Principal Jerry Mitchell communicates in his office. Mitchell, the assistant principal for the class of 2000, has taken over the interim duties of principal.

High school faculty have been instructed that if they know of a good candidate to send nominations to *The High School Principal Search* at the Administration Building.

According to Dr. Mark Freeman, superintendent, the objective of the district is "not to meet some arbitrary timetable but to find the best person for the position."

"I think Mr. Mitchell is great

because he's been a principal before," junior Kareemah Lumpkin said.

"As for our new principal, I hope that he or she is not by the book and not stationary," Lumpkin said.

"I hope that he knows himself and also knows the criteria to be a good principal. I wouldn't mind if Mr. Mitchell stayed around as principal himself, though."

## Schools debate Yom Kippur closing

• Lawsuit sparks discussions of holiday observance policies

By Nate Klooster  
Staff reporter

The American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit against a Cincinnati school district for closing school on Jewish holidays has Shaker students scratching their heads.

According to the lawsuit, "The motivation was to close on the Jewish high holidays, but not holidays of other faiths."

In 1995, the Sycamore School District adopted a religiously neutral policy that said it would close school when the absentee rate was to exceed 21.5 percent of the student population. For Yom Kippur it was only expected to be 14 or 15 percent.

Marcy Bernstein, a member of Fairmount Temple, is a

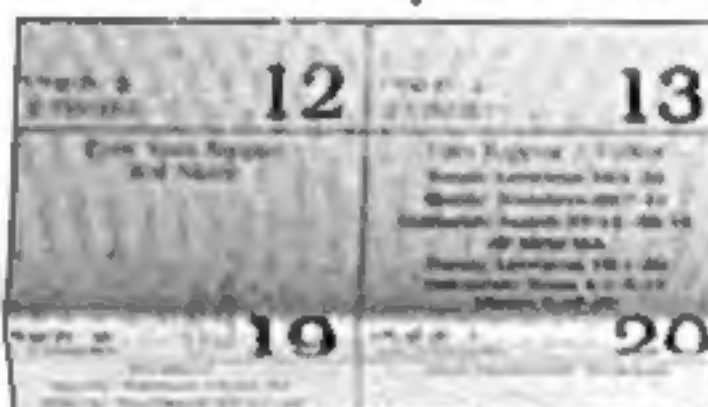
sophomore at Cleveland Heights. She says closing for religious holidays is essential.

"I know more than 200 kids would be gone, not to mention teachers," Bernstein said.

Beachwood Superintendent Paul Williams said that "we would have empty classrooms. I find this kind of funny. If they are going to argue this then we need to get rid of Christmas and New Year's."

Some students don't see a need to alter the current school policy.

"Right now I think everything is fair because Jewish kids aren't forced to miss school for religious obligations, and other kids get their holidays off as well," sophomore J.R. Siegel said.



The suit will be tried in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio at an undetermined time. Until then, Bernstein urges "that people should write to the ACLU to let them know that what the ACLU is doing is wrong and they oppose the lawsuit. Otherwise the ACLU will continue to think that they are protecting people's rights when they are actually violating them."

## Shaker reacts to Strothers verdict

By Marianne Cronin  
and Karen Jenks  
Staff reporter  
and News Co-editor

On Sept. 16, 1999, Judge Patricia Cleary sentenced 21-year-old Scott Strothers to 23 years to life in prison after he pleaded guilty to the March murder of Shaker student Penny Chang.

Because Strothers pleaded guilty before he went on trial for aggravated murder, he is eligible for parole in 2022. This dis-

pleased many, especially Chang's father.

Shaker students agreed "The crime he committed deserved much larger penalties," sophomore David Margolius said.

"I personally think that he should have gotten life in prison without parole," freshman Fred Alert said, "because he took her life."

While most are unsatisfied, some are hopeful for the future.

"I'd like to think there's a

possibility of rehabilitation for this man," senior Jon Malangoni said, "but I know that murder is a habit."

Bud Longo, who teaches global studies and criminology, had both Chang and Strothers in his class at one time.

"Considering that Scott Strothers knew his actions were wrong, I'm disappointed that he didn't get life in prison without parole," he said. "Penny was vivacious and always had a smile. She will be sorely missed."

•The French Club's fall fund raiser is now in progress. They will be joining Spanish Club for a picnic Sept. 28 at Horseshoe Lake. Activities for the year will include watching French films, a Mardi Gras party and making Valentine cards for the patients at the VA hospital. Daavine Aouira will be the featured guest speaker at one meeting. - French club adviser Lynne Shima

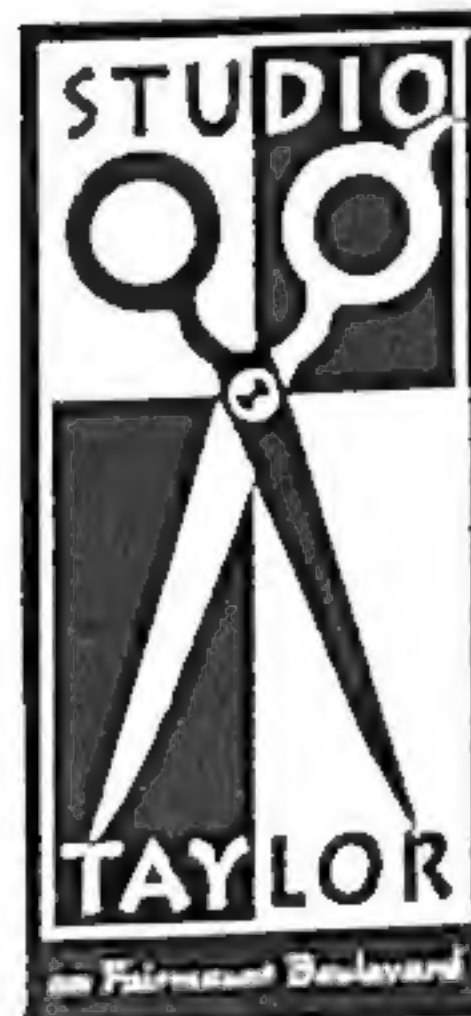
**UPDATE**  
Academic Decathlon is in its first stage of preparation for competition. Interested students have read *Willa Cather's Mr. Antonia* and have prepared study questions for the first full meeting, which was Monday, Sept. 27 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. We are looking for competitive and spirited students, especially with B and C grade-point averages, who would like to earn medals in tournament testing on this year's topic 'Looking Forward: Creating the Futures.' -Academic Decathlon adviser Steven Fox

Youth Ending Hunger is currently volunteering every other Wednesday at a soup kitchen and at the Cleveland Food Bank. Meetings are held on Tuesdays in Room 278. Contact Mr. Scanlon if you are interested in joining or volunteering with the club. -Youth Ending Hunger adviser Bill Scanlon

The Russian Studies Club is hosting 10 students and two teachers from Shaker's sister school in Pskov, Russia. This is the third Russian exchange Shaker has participated in. Shaker's 10 students and two teachers will travel to Pskov in the spring. The club is selling a Shaker-motif afghan to raise funds for the trip. This fundraiser will also benefit Women Helping Educate Women. - Russian Studies Club adviser Marge Eisenberg

The Cooperative Business Education Club (CBE) is a part of the CBE class, which is a work/study program for seniors. The class focuses on business and office education. The club engages in field trips, attends officer's leadership camp, competitive events, regional overnight conferences, and hosts an employer-employee luncheon. We will also perform a community service project in November. - CBE adviser Glenda Moss

compiled by Leah Kaulman and Meryl Kriener



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# News in the nation

Debate over separation of church and state sweeps high schools nationwide

## ① Topeka, Kansas

### Evolution banned from state science curriculum

The Kansas Board of Education voted to ban the inclusion of evolution in the state's science curriculum. The decision, made in mid-August, does not forbid the teaching of evolution, but it does prevent any inclusion of the subject on state tests, which could prevent teachers from spending time on the subject, reports the *New York Times*. After protests from scientists, the decision was changed to a recommendation and now remains in the hand of local school districts.

## ② McKee, Kentucky

### School district allows Ten Commandments on walls

In early August, an eastern Kentucky school district posted copies of the Ten Commandments in every classroom. Although there was little to no community opposition, the plaques were justified by the school board as an effort to promote good morals in school and prevent high school violence, reported the *Associated Press*. The district attorney of the area believes that the plaques are legal because they were paid for and posted by volunteers.



## ③ Gulfport, Mississippi

### Star of David pendant ruling reversed after lawsuit threat

In mid-August, junior Ryan Green was forbidden to wear his Star of David pendant by school officials, who insisted that the Star of David could be seen as a gang symbol. When Green and his family appealed to the school board over the issue, the anti-gang policy was unanimously upheld. The ACLU and religious leaders came to the aid of the Green family, and with the threat of several lawsuits, the Harrison County school board reversed the decision and allowed Green to wear his pendant. The ACLU said the Star of David and all other religious symbols are constitutionally protected forms of religious speech.

Compiled by Meghan Dubyak

## ④ Richmond, Virginia

### ACLU urges schools to drop silent prayer session proposal

Several counties within Virginia have proposed the posting of the Lord's Prayer and a moment of silence for prayer in public schools. The ACLU sent a letter to Appomattox county school officials urging the school board to drop these actions by saying that they would be a violation of the First Amendment's separation of church and state.



Robbie Mark/The Shakerite

With almost twice the enrollment as last year, the Raiderettes have been able to create more elaborate flag routines and dances.

## Raiderettes increase in number, strength

By Leah Kaufman  
Staff Reporter

What comes to mind when you see sequined uniforms, large red flags and broad smiles? It couldn't be anything other than Shaker's own Raiderettes, who accompany the band in rooting for the football team.

This year it is hard to miss the group of smiling and dancing girls, as their number has almost doubled, increasing from 16 to 30 participants since last year. With school funding for equipment, uniforms and props, the Raiderettes were able to increase participation.

"I think that because we expanded, we really stand out compared to the band," junior Raiderette Jamile Karout said.

Because of their increased size, there are more options for their artistic expression.

"This year we are able to have more interesting and elaborate dances," sophomore Andrea Thoenes said.

Band members and

fans also appreciated the changes.

"Having a lot of them really adds to the show," sophomore band member Erica Neal said.

"They add a lot to the show," sophomore Abra Kinkopf said.

The Raiderettes train vigorously, working on their dance techniques and their flag routines with the help of advisers Crystal Musick and Debbie Deep.

"We come to school every morning at 7:30 and practice our routines for the next game. We spend half our time learning the dances and the other half learning the flag routines," senior Raiderette captain Erica Johnson said.

As the season progresses, the Raiderettes hope to mature as a group and commit themselves to the program.

"One of our goals is to cooperate with each other. Another one is to have a good show and make the community proud of us," Johnson said.

## Newby urges a curb on sarcasm

By Lisa Samols  
Co-editor in chief

When they returned to school in August, Shaker faculty were encouraged to eliminate lineups, blockouts and sarcasm from the school.

At the opening faculty meeting, Dr. William Newby, director of curriculum and assistant principal, asked teachers to address those items in hopes of improving instruction and the school climate.

Newby described these points, which he first proposed to the high school faculty eight years ago, as "three things that I feel would improve how the school functions."

Newby first discouraged lineups -- the habit of students lining up at the door at the conclusion of class when the bell has not yet rung.

"We will function much better as a school if students remain in their seats [until] the end of class," Newby said.

Newby explained that without lineups, a teacher can deal with other business that might arise in the classroom, rather than controlling students who are waiting in line by the door.

Newby also asked teachers not to blockout their windows by placing paper or posters over the windows on doors. He said that all teachers and faculty members should be proud of what they do in the school and invite others to look in at their work.

According to Newby, keeping the windows clear creates a feeling of openness in the school and encourages visitors to take a look at what is going on in each classroom.

Lastly, Newby strongly opposes the use of sarcasm in the classroom.

"It's a twisted way of confronting someone," he said.

Newby distinguished between sarcasm used to make a joke and sarcasm used to insult a student or peer in a degrading and snide way.

"My belief is that if we have a negative message to send, it's best if we do it directly rather than with a twist," he said.

Economics teacher Diana Jones agreed with Newby's view about sarcasm.

"I feel it is the responsibility of the teachers to create an atmosphere in which the students can

*"It is the responsibility of the teachers to create an atmosphere in which the students can learn the best way possible. By using sarcasm, teachers make students feel uncomfortable and belittle them."*

DIANA JONES  
economics teacher

learn in the best way possible," Jones said.

"By using sarcasm, the teacher makes students uncomfortable and belittles them. The teacher has all the power, and it is a misuse of power to use sarcasm. I do not feel it has ever made a student more eager to learn."

Contrary to popular belief, the guidelines are not a reaction to the recent school shootings in Columbine, Atlanta and Los Angeles, but rather are three things Newby feels would help the school function better than in past years.

"All three [guidelines] affect the tone of the school," Newby said.

## Students tech-up for future success

By Beth Dolinsky  
Copy editor

What do you want to be when you grow up? While many of us are clueless about our futures, some Shaker teens have been getting an early start on their careers by working with computers.

One such student is junior Aaron Greenspan who has his own company, ThinkComputer, and serves 100 clients in four states.

"I fix computer problems, set up networks for businesses, set up webpages, do desktop publishing, database development . . . basically anything and everything that has to do with computers," Greenspan said.

Greenspan began his company at the age of 11, after setting up a relative's computer. His mother suggested that he charge for his services.

"I thought she was crazy," he said. "No one was going to hire an 11-year-old."

However, that early start may have been just what he needed to get ahead in the computer world. Knowledge of technology has become a necessity in today's world.

"Computers are every-



Robbie Mark/The Shakerite

Careers in technology are viable options for Shaker students who immerse themselves in the computer culture.

where," said Cynthia Walker, a Shaker schools tech support specialist. "Kids here have an advantage because there is exposure on the middle school and elementary level."

Some students are already gaining real-world experience.

"I service computers and do 3-D design on microchips," said sophomore Joseph Wrenn, who hopes to pursue a career in computer technology and software.

Junior Greg Knowles works as a part of the Network crew, a team of students employed by the district who set up computers, troubleshoot and help teachers with specific problems.

"I'm not sure it's exactly what I want to do

later [in life], but it's a part of what I need," Knowles said.

Freshman Andrew Levin, who was recently hired by Greenspan, agreed. "[Working with computers now] gives you experience you'll need later," he said.

Despite the opportunities that exist for teenage computer whizzes, not every business takes teens seriously. "Businesses sometimes reject me because of my age, or have rules that they can't employ me because I'm too young," Greenspan said.

Still, there's no escaping the increasing role that computers are playing in society.

"It's the way of living," Walker said. "Soon it'll be like any home appliance--you have to learn."



## Shakerite

Volume 70 • Issue 1

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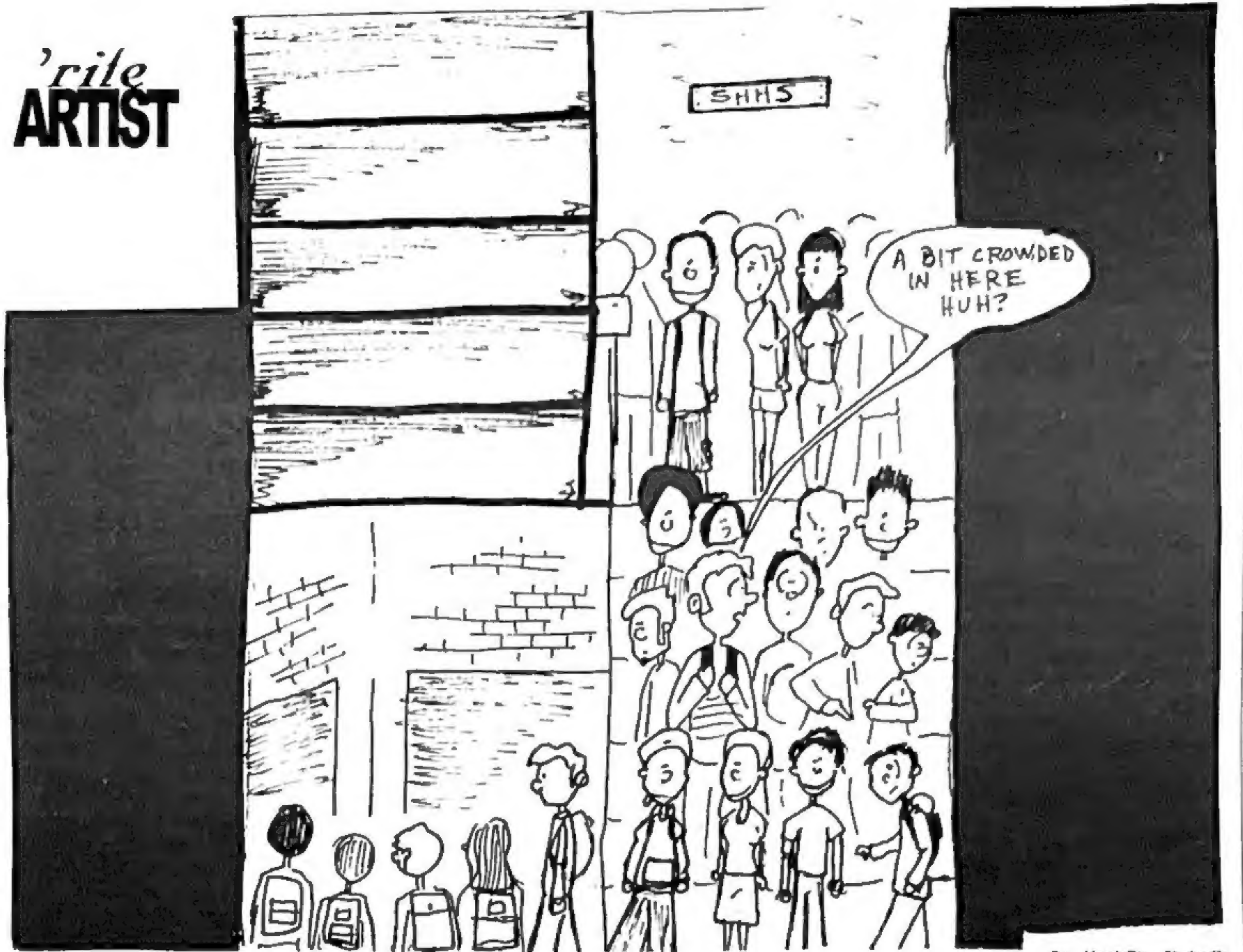
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Dan Moody/The Shakerite

## Recycle recycling

## • Program is beneficial and must return

The past two years have brought drastic renovations to our school and community. Yet, in spite of such progress, in one regrettable way, we have regressed.

In an effort to help the environment, many of the school's facilities have been remodeled to decrease the amount of paper waste. For example, in the new bathrooms, paper towel dispensers have been given way to Airspeed World Dryers. At the same time, however, the high school recycling program has been axed.

Such inconsistent efforts fall short of protecting the earth.

The decision to cut the recycling program seems contradictory to the progressive ideals our school

and community value, ideals that bring notoriety to Shaker Heights.

When the program was canceled last May, administrators cited a rumor that a student was going to burn down the school, using the accumulated paper to fuel the fire.

In the wake of school disasters such as the shootings and bombings at Columbine High School, the need to take extra safety precautions is legitimate and necessary. Sadly — but realistically — a student's plan to destroy the school is not going to be curtailed by throwing away reams of paper.

If administrators are that concerned by the threat of fire, they should consider the disasters that could arise due to storage of other items. How is lawn equipment stored? Gasoline? Science lab chemicals? Should every potentially flammable item in the school be eliminated? Obviously not.

Shaker Middle School is known for its comprehensive recycling program, but is the risk of a prankster setting fire to a recycling bin any less real at a middle school? Does it take a high school student to destroy a school? Certainly the precedents we've seen suggest that a 13-year-old is just as likely as a 17-year-old to harm his peers.

Before the program was cut, paper to be recycled was not locked away. However, now there is a lock on the door to that storage room (although the room is still easily accessible, so in effect the administration has accomplished nothing). Why, then, is the door not locked and the recycling program reinstated? Perhaps the administration has ulterior motives for cutting the recycling program — it has been cut three times in the last five years. What does the school have against saving the environment?

Recycling is a beneficial tool to prevent future problems by saving trees and limiting the size of landfills. We owe it to ourselves and future generations to inform administrators that protecting the earth is essential and see to it that the recycling program returns.

*Perhaps the administration has ulterior motives for cutting the recycling program — it has been cut three times in the last five years. What does the school have against saving the environment?*

cheers  
& JEERS

Jeers to head injuries.

Cheers to Shaker touchdowns.

Cheers to colored pens . . . they make notes more visually pleasing.

Jeers to "Caution: Loose Stones" signs all over Shaker.

Cheers to being able to legally drive with bare feet in Ohio.

Jeers to going to Panera Bread Co. It's like being at school.

Cheers to mice because they are different than rats and nicer, too.

Jeers to Chik-Fil-A being closed on Sundays.

Cheers to non-Shaker homecoming dates.

Jeers to lockers on the third floor and in the basement.

Cheers to the new bathrooms. It's fun to get lost in them.

Jeers the Y2K hype. Just chill out and leave your money in the bank.

## Don't stop education for holy days

Last month, the American Civil Liberties Union went to court to challenge a suburban Cincinnati school district's policy of closing schools for the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

If schools close for one religion's holiday, they should close for all religious holy days,

and that's not feasible or right! If religious beliefs are important enough for students or faculty to miss class, those people should be willing to accommodate their beliefs with personal absences instead of expecting an entire school to put learning on hold.

Allison Pollock

## Social room needs a cleanup

Don't you just love messes? Dirty, icky, ketchup-and-crumby messes? I do, and that's why I spend my free time in the new senior lounge.

Not that I feel the class of 2000 is especially dirty. We aren't. Which is why I can't figure out why we can't keep our room clean.

It's *our* room. The only room in the school where we can sleep during lunch — at least comfortably. It's the only

room where we can get away from the underclassmen. The only room with those awesome lean-back chairs.

If we don't start taking care of it, folks, we're going to have to sit in the egress or the cafeteria again. And where would we go during free periods? Think about it for a second.

We don't want to lose our privileges. Let's not mess this up.

Stephanie Gabarik



# International travel broadens horizons

Shaker's diversity constantly reminds us of the world around us. Daily we are exposed to a multitude of cultures through our curriculum and exchange programs. We learn foreign languages that enhance our knowledge of the tongues and cultures of the world around us. We take social studies courses that bring us to places and times as far away as ancient China and as close as our present-day nation. Shaker is home to a host of foreign exchange students who

enhance our hallways and our lives with their various backgrounds. Our students are given unique opportunities to travel to cities in the United States and countries on the other side of the world, experiences usually reserved for a university student.

What are the benefits? Does this exposure to various cultures dissolve inherent American biases or fortify them? *The Shakerite* takes a closer look at worldly attitudes.

Exchange students and student travelers are around every corner, in every hallway throughout the school day. But what are the advantages of leaving home?

*The Shakerite* took this question into the hallways to find out what the student body thinks.

## shaker SPEAKS



**Phillip Wallach**

Grade: junior

What can people learn from foreign travel?

"I think that the only way anybody can really experience a foreign culture is by spending time immersed in it."

**Svetlana Pavlova**  
Home country: Russia  
How would you compare Americans to Russians?

"Of course they [Americans] are different. They are very friendly and very polite, but their reactions are more reserved."



**Anna Ivanova**

Home country: Russia  
How do Americans react to foreigners?

"If Russians don't like you, they will show it. But Americans will not. It is easier for Americans to communicate with each other."

**Natalie Guelfi**  
Home country: France  
Has American society made you feel comfortable?

"All the people I meet are very friendly to me. Americans are very friendly, but very different from French people."



**Mary Ashcraft**

Occupation: German teacher  
How do you think students can benefit from the exchange program?

"Getting to know different cultures leads to greater acceptance and tolerance."

**Allison Lewis**  
Grade: senior  
How did you benefit from your trip to Mexico?

"I got to see a different culture and experience different types of people and learn the language better. I'm almost fluent."



## World travel enhances the textbook education

By Justin Gurney  
Managing editor

Tired of staring at the same text-filled pages, learning the same dry facts from the same teachers? Having trouble digesting all the names, dates and landmarks your history class is feeding you?

Try getting out and experiencing society by traveling or immersing yourself in a local but foreign community, because seeing is believing, and it is much more interesting to visually experience what we study.

Many of our classes are based on historical landmarks, people, plays and artwork. Our textbooks exemplify them the best they can through pictures, excerpts and commentary, but they never give a student a full understanding of their actual nature.

I didn't care or understand what was so amazing about *Mona Lisa* or Normandy until I was actually there. When you see the eyes of the painting follow you around or visit the cemetery honoring people who died for

your freedom, it puts the cultural importance of art and history into perspective.

Students should attempt to experience as much of what our country and other countries around the world have to offer. Go abroad, immerse yourself in other cultures and then you will appreciate what is written in the textbooks.

And don't think the only places of historical significance are in Europe. In all other nations and even our own United States, there is so much to offer, and generally for much less money. Try to experience Mardi Gras or Times Square on New Year's Eve; walk through Yellowstone National Park or the San Diego Zoo; take a look at the Alamo, learn a little about yourself in the process.

A lot of people say they will go abroad when they get to college. That is fine, but it is very expensive and many people can't afford it. I believe it is our school and our district's responsibility to provide us with legitimate opportunities to experi-

ence what we study. If they do, it is our responsibility to take advantage of them.

That's not to say that Shaker presents no opportunities for inexpensive travel. Shaker and other organizations offer many opportunities for this to become reality, whether it is with a musical group like the band, orchestra or choir, a club like AFS-ISO, or a foreign language organization.

Stay in Cleveland, home to one of the largest eastern-European communities in the country. Or even stay in Shaker, but be sure to experience to the fullest the wide range of ethnic and cultural diversity that is represented through our many partnerships with schools abroad.

We live in a society oblivious to other nations, where students believe that what we study has no bearing on their individual lives. Many exchange students come to Shaker every year and impress us with their understanding of our language and culture. Do you think we impress them at all? I doubt

it, because it's not often they see us in their schools, learning the way they learn or partying the way they party. We think we are the dominant nation, and I see that as a direct link to why studying history, famous people and landmarks seems boring to the average student.

When I was in Europe this past summer, I went to the second level of the Eiffel Tower and saw a bird's eye view of the most beautiful city in the world. I went to Amsterdam and saw the bookshelf Anne Frank hid behind. I heard an authentic British accent and danced with French women. Simply being with different people and actually seeing what I have read about so many times made me believe that study and experience go hand in hand. One is not much without the other.

Do as much as you can while you are young enough to do it, because one day we may look back and be upset that the only history we know is what happened in our own lives.

## Americans' ignorance breeds arrogance

By Jess Strange  
Staff reporter

Traditionally in America, kids have grown up narrow-minded, primarily because they have not been exposed to the many cultures in the world besides our own. Our society has created a superiority complex through our patriotism. American ignorance has led to American arrogance.

As children, we learn about the history of other nations, but only briefly, and the effect is not lasting. This in part is due to the location of our country. In Europe, it is easy to drive for an hour and be in a different country, experience a different culture, hear another language.

In contrast, in America you can drive for an hour and not even leave your own state. Some Shaker kids have never been out of Ohio, let alone out of the country, and it's harder to learn about different cultures when you don't go outside of the boundaries of your own state.

Broadening horizons to include other cultures can give people new perspectives on life. Children in almost every country other than America learn a foreign language at an early age, and most of the time this language is English.

However, Americans don't begin studying a foreign language until their teen years, if they study one at all. It's a well known fact that it's easier to learn a foreign language when you are young, as you are still learning more about your own language. Many students in other countries are already fluent in English by the time we begin to learn foreign languages.

Last year, during one of Terry Pollack's Oppression classes, two German exchange students visited to talk about racism in their country. In fluent English, they talked about the origins of racism in Germany and what kinds of racism exist currently. Most of the class appreciated their visit and was impressed by how much English the Germans spoke.

Pollack then decided to ask his class a little bit about the German government. To their embarrassment, they

knew absolutely nothing. When asked to name some German cities, his students had trouble naming even five. When he asked the Germans to name American cities, they were done within 15 seconds and had named about a dozen.

Our substantial ignorance of other countries is disturbing. The two German students not only knew more about our government than we knew about theirs, but even more disappointing, their knowledge of our government was greater than our own.

Because we are ignorant of other countries' cultures, languages and advantages, we convince ourselves that we are superior to all others. That arrogance masks our insecurity.

Maybe our arrogance would not be so prevalent if we were taught at an early age not to discount other cultures. Although we aren't directly taught to block out other cultures, it is inferred quite frequently through school, family and the environment.

Even more astounding than America's ignorance is the ignorance here at Shaker. Shaker's renowned value of diversity is widely promoted, and while we are very proud of this high standard, we have to ask ourselves a question: Have we learned anything?

We are surrounded by different cultures, yet we are reluctant to take part in educating ourselves about them.

Americans rarely know anything about history of other countries and refuse to educate themselves about it. Evidently, we feel that it is OK for Americans to lay judgments on other countries, but we all know that we would be quite upset if visitors came to our country and did the same.

Americans need to change their ignorance. Perhaps if we could all do that, maybe we would be more willing to stop being so arrogant. By being arrogant, we miss out on the riches of other countries and other cultures.

The point is not to have an unjustified American superiority complex, but rather embrace opportunities to educate ourselves about cultures that are different from our own.





Alex Kolb  
Opinion Co-editor

## Parking problem still pending

I've noticed two things over the past month at Shaker, and neither of them is good. The first is that our oval, over the last year, has become less and less a place for student parking. This isn't to say that spots have been occupied by teachers, because despite construction, administrators have taken special measures to expand teacher parking.

The problem is not even that there is less space, as was the case last year when the front parking lot opened. The problem is that construction workers, despite promises that they would not take up existing parking, have decided that they'll do it anyway.

It's not a pleasant situation when at 7:35 a.m. you have to try to sneak into the Ad lot or park a mile away on Parkland or Huntington. If you drive around the oval during lunch periods, you can't miss those blaring red cones that seem to occupy the spots we once had.

The construction workers hold their spots with the cones while they take their breaks, and leave us to race to Taco Bell or Rally's as fast as we can, not caring if there is a decent spot for us on the oval when we return.

If this seems bad, then the second thing I've noticed should make you sick. I've seen an increasing lack of initiative taken by students to fight on the parking issue, which has gradually grown worse since I was a freshman. Parking just got harder, and we take it in stride?

When the fire gets hotter, you don't just cook. You turn the gas off, and we can't sit here and let these workers use their intimidation to make us late to class. They're already so far behind that it doesn't matter if they are late to work. But we still have a lot of work before us, and if we are being judged every day, it's more important that we be on time. Doesn't the administration see this?

Nope, they don't. They won't accommodate parking concerns any more than they already have. So it's time for us to take action. If you're late to school, sneak into the Ad lot. If you're coming back from lunch with only five minutes until class, move the cones. Let the workers take the Rapid to school from their parking spaces.

What are they going to do if you take their prized spots on the oval? Glare at you? Flex at you? Who gave them the authority?

Please.

This is Shaker, and we're going to flex right back.

# KKK rally must not be tolerated

• Community's passive attitude ushers the Klan out of Cleveland slowly

By Debra Kamin  
Staff reporter

Does freedom of speech guarantee the freedom to hate? Does freedom of religion allow one group to declare another void of rights? And does the right of the people to peacefully assemble mean that a group of disillusioned men and women are allowed to come into our city and spread their hatred around, all because of a Constitutional amendment drawn up more than 200 years ago?

Hate groups are on the rise in today's world, with the black ink of headlines shouting of bombings, and poker-faced news anchors reciting yet another story of a haven-turned-hell. Are we not still recoiling from the wrath of Columbine, to find Neo-Nazi terror scrawled on the walls freshly cleaned of school children's blood?

The millennium's clock continues to tick, but it is no longer the threat of Y2K that makes Americans tremble. A computer shutdown is a trivial problem; it is the fanatics who feel they must extinguish anyone who does not share their color or creed whom we must fear.

And now, the malevolence has entered Cleveland's borders. The Ku Klux Klan came and went this summer, leaving very little behind for us to remember them by. But their presence must not be forgotten. Anyone who thinks that the Klan is a relic of the past is greatly mistaken. Hate is still blooming, passed from generation to generation. The Ku Klux Klan's invasion of our city this summer is living, breathing, shouting, violent proof that freedom of speech is a deeper issue than those three simple words. We are allowed to state

our opinions, yet we should not be obligated to face terror.

Nowhere in the Constitution does it say that white power is an inalienable right. There is no amendment guaranteeing the freedom to burn a cross on someone's lawn. Somewhere the line must be drawn, and it will not be in the law books. It is time for our moral code to be amended.

It is time for Americans to get scared. It is time to take action. It is time to learn from the history books and take those relics of the past

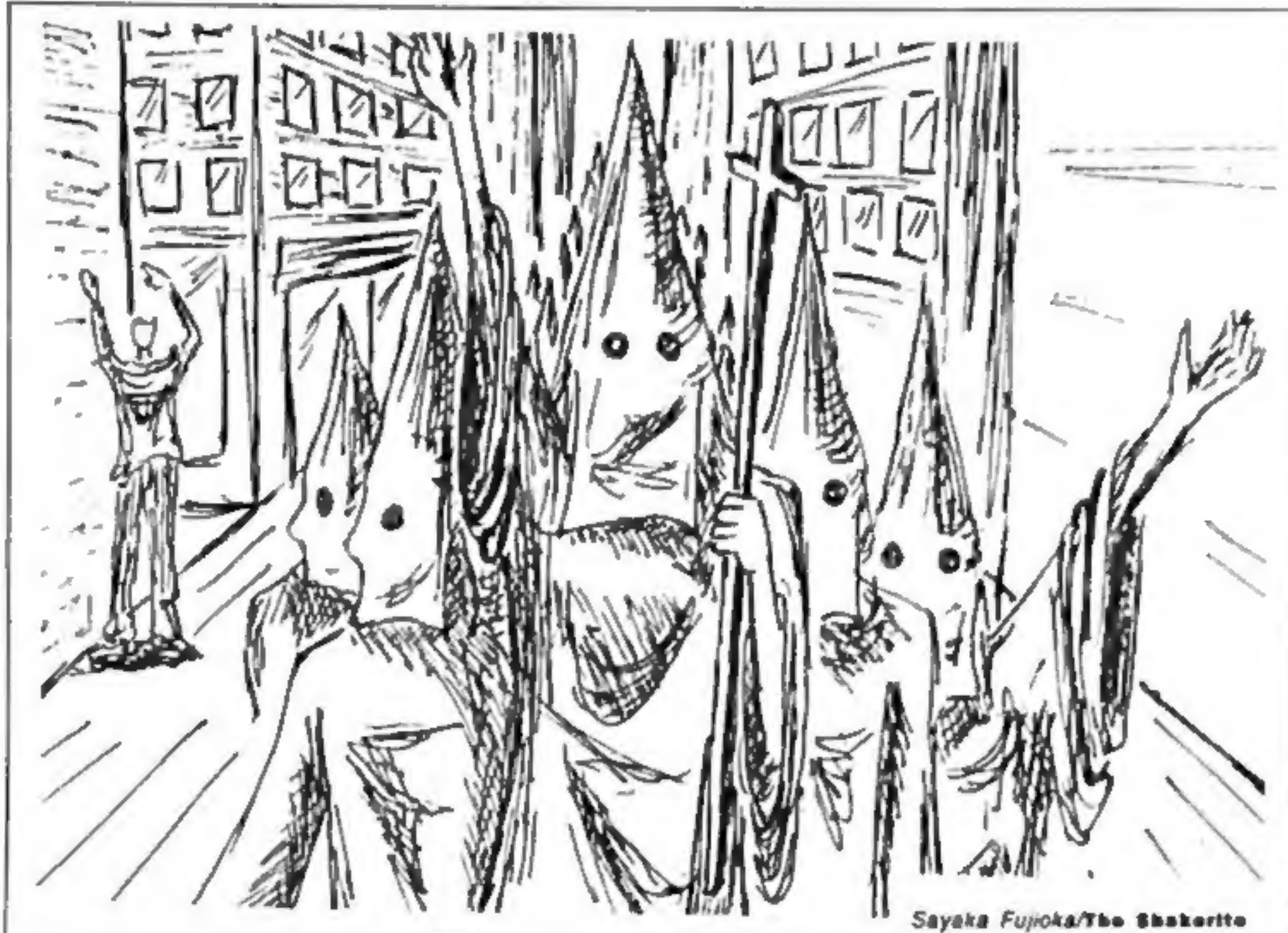
-- those stories of persecution and rancor toward the innocent -- and realize they have not stayed on the library shelf in their dusty volumes. They are just as much in today's news as they were 60 years ago in the Holocaust, as they were 40 years ago during the Civil Rights Movement. It does not matter what race or religion is being oppressed today -- it is our responsibility as citizens to take action right now to make sure it does not continue into tomorrow.

The solution to our problem is not in the law books. Those rules and regulations were

created long ago. They have served their purpose, and they continue to do so, but only after the damage is done. We must reform our morals and our levels of tolerance before we take our inability to live together to the Congressional floor.

People must learn to be tolerant of one another. The more we spend time with one another, the more we learn about other cultures, the greater our immunity to hate.

And when we become immune to the hate groups, they will have lost their power.



Sayaka Fujoka/The Shakerite

## Two views of hazing: inevitable or immature

• New action taken on traditional freshman hazing conjures mixed reactions

### POINT

Freshman hazing draws attention every year. Ensuring student safety remains a priority to school officials, but I think that they have gone overboard in their most recent action.

At the culmination of last school year, student council went to the middle school to discuss the idea of hazing and its absence from the high school. When freshmen arrived at school this fall, they were bombarded by assemblies reminding them to tell authorities about harassment situations. Upperclassmen have been threatened with suspension for any such actions. School officials have put their feet down.

Violence is not the answer, but neither is giving eighth graders a false sense of security. If a freshman seriously feels threatened, action should be taken immediately.

In the past, most "hazing" incidents have simply been immature games or pranks that upperclassmen play on freshmen to give them a spook. I doubt that most freshmen hurry home every day because they fear their older counterparts.

The majority of hazing experiences, I believe, are older siblings playing around with their younger brothers and sisters. And if not related, the two parties certainly know each other on a more friendly basis. I doubt that upperclassmen have harassed freshmen whom they do not know.

Authorities are focusing their attention on issues that shouldn't be a priority (hazing), while they could be focusing their attention on real issues (racial segregation in our cafeteria). If the administration feels a need to abolish hazing, I am sorry to tell

you that I don't think it is feasible. I can almost guarantee that there was some hazing this year, and I can guarantee that there will be hazing in years to follow. The school could do me and the rest of the student body a big favor and leave a dead issue at rest.

Brandon Dorsky

### COUNTERPOINT

Awareness of hazing and its serious consequences grows with every year. Ten or 15 years ago,

administrators, teachers and parents would look the other way at a freshman rite of passage and consider it commonplace. However, the last few years have brought a rise in student awareness, and the personal freedoms of young people are no longer willingly compromised. Whereas a student may have taken a few paddles with a grin in the '70s and '80s, kids of the '90s are quicker to yell harassment.

The beginning of last year marked a distinct step for Shaker Schools with a revised, more comprehensive harassment policy outlined for the students and posted on the walls of every classroom. Every student, whether a freshman or a new member of a varsity team, can now feel free from the threat of hazing. And frankly, that really is not such a bad thing.

Now I won't say that when I was a freshman I never took a paddling, nor that I've never given one to a new kid. But as I look back my actions strike me as immature. It's one thing to be an upperclassman and not want to have anything to do with a single freshman. We can avoid them in school and on the weekends. We don't even have to look at them in the hall -- they only come up to our waists.

But when we, the mature ones of the school, stoop down to the level of a 14-year-old and paddle them, what does that say about us? I would sooner laugh at someone who did the paddling just for taking the time out of school to associate with a freshman than applaud his sense of humor. The administration has every right to focus attention on the problem of hazing. If a victim of a beat-down wanted to, he or she could sue the school, and the district would be responsible for not addressing the problem sooner. In my opinion, anyone who takes the time to beat up a freshman should be laughed at and then punished. The issue is anything but dead, because it holds the most potential for a legal crisis.

Alex Kolb



Dan Moody/The Shakerite



# HATE

Am I safe walking home from the football game after dark? Do I really want to go to that movie alone? These are the questions Shaker students and other students across the country are forced to ask themselves. In response to the rise in hate crimes throughout the United States and events such as the Klu Klux Klan rally in Cleveland, Centerpiece went in search of the roots of hate.

By Carmel Pryor  
Staff Reporter

In late August, U.S. Army Private First Class Barry Westcott, 21, was allegedly assaulted with a baseball bat at Fort Campbell in Nashville because he was a homosexual.

Joseph S. Ito, a Filipino American postal worker, was allegedly slain by white supremacist Buford O. Furrow, who had first opened fire at a Jewish Community Center, wounding a receptionist and four children.

Benjamin Smith, former member of the hate group World Church of the Creator, committed suicide after killing two and wounding nine Asians, African Americans and Jews during a two-state rampage that began July 2 in Chicago.

June 7, 1998: John William King, along with two accomplices, chained 44-year-old James Byrd Jr. to the back of a pickup truck and dragged him along a rough dirt road. Law enforcement officials found parts of his body, including his head, strewn along the path of the crime.

Thus far, two of the suspects in King's death have been convicted and sentenced to death — primarily because of their white supremacist beliefs.

When and why do people become motivated to parlay their hate into bias crimes — violent acts that are occupying ever more headline space in the daily news?

"If anyone gives a simple answer, they're wrong," Cleveland State University psychologist Elizabeth Welfel said.

Hate crimes are acts of aggression or violence directed against people because of their race, religion, ethnicity, gender, disability or sexual identity. They are also protests against the American government's idea of one nation for all.

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, the number of hate groups jumped from 474 in 1997 to 537 the following year. Today, there are many reasons why individuals choose to join hate groups and assault minorities. Critics and scholars point to media influence, childhood experience, dissatisfaction with one's own life, physical or sexual abuse and attribution of personal in-

adequacies to others.

"There is a lack of community and connection from kids to adults," said Welfel, who also serves as coordinator of the CSU counseling program. "In general, there's more peer pressure, more awareness of violence from the media, movies and video games."

Most people are aware of negative stereotypes of minorities, females, homosexuals and religions, yet many choose to not let such negativity affect their thinking, or at least their actions toward others. Still, there are those who use stereotypes to

drive their hate, according to Dr. John Yost, psychology professor at John Carroll University. Another theory suggests it is not only low self-esteem that leads people to join hate groups, but also high self-esteem that, when challenged, causes an individual to lash out.

"If a person is rich, more busy with friends and activities, then they have no reason to search for someone to hate," Yost said. "But if they're bored and poor, then they are more likely to be susceptible to become pulled into hate groups."

A gruesome example of this happened Nov. 8, 1995 in Novato, California. Eddy Wu, a 23-year-old Chinese American, was stabbed by Robert Page. To justify his actions, Page said, "I didn't have anything to do when I woke up. No friends were around. It seemed that no one wanted to be around me. So I figured, what the f—, I'm going to kill me a Chinaman."

Another issue concerns teenagers who increasingly lack the ability to control inner frustrations and be tolerant. Baird Wiehe, Shaker psychology and sociology teacher, said that families with very strict fathers and submissive mothers tend to raise intolerant children. White supremacists are generally from the lower, working class and feel as if they have not been given a fair chance in society. They blame this on minorities who, in their minds, get unconstitutional special privileges. They narrowly-mindedly misread people by projecting

their own faults as the faults of others, Wiehe said.

"Most crimes are by men raised predominantly by women. Young men don't know how to exert or use anger when there's a lack of a father around," Wiehe said.

Many students agreed with Wiehe's theory that this violent mentality may begin in the home.

"It's the way people were raised," sophomore Ryan Pope said.

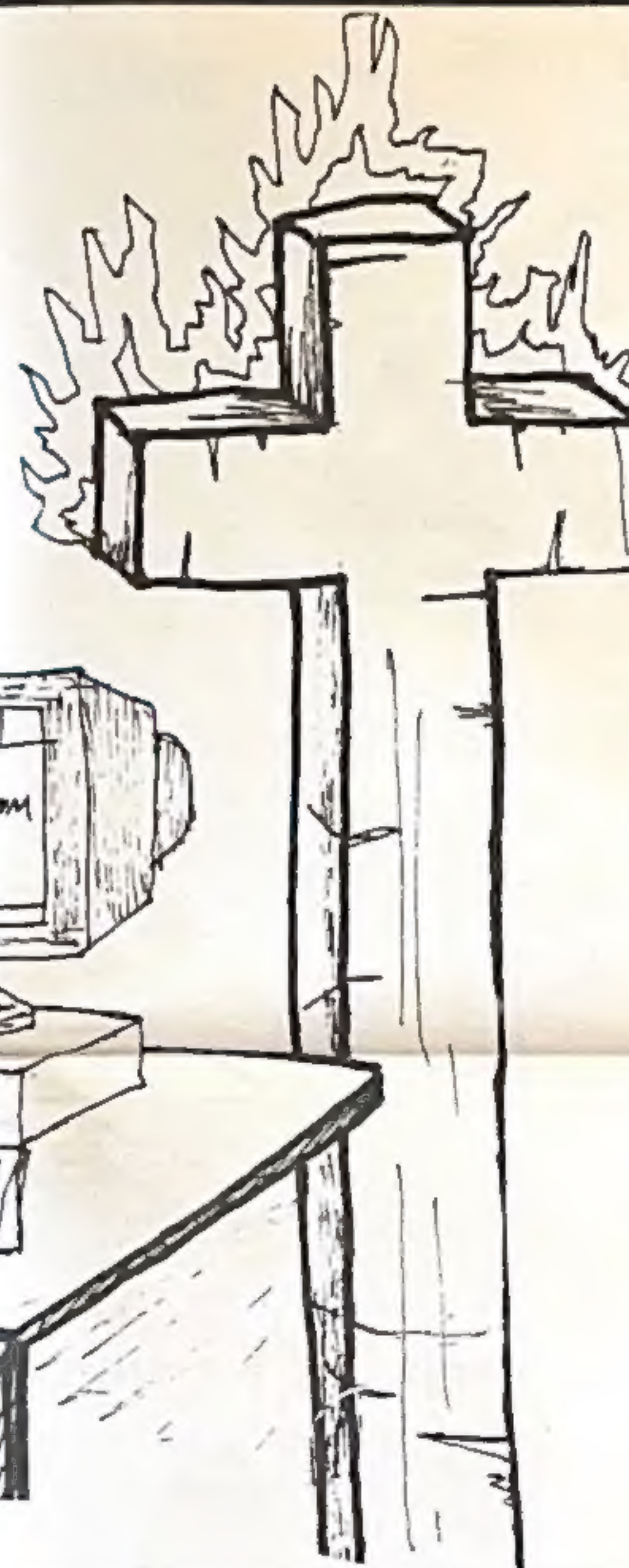
"It has a lot to do with the influences of parents and religion. When they took prayer out of schools, that's when shootings started," said senior Laurel Latorres.

FBI statistics show increases in reported hate crimes at the same time that other serious crime continues to decrease nationally. The greatest number of hate crimes are perpetrated against African Americans. Attacks against gays and lesbians make up 14 percent of hate crimes. The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs reported 33 homosexuals mur-

dered in 1998, up from 14 in 1997. Also, crimes targeting members of specific religions are overwhelmingly committed against Jewish people — 83 percent of religious hate crimes targeted them.

Currently, only 22 states and the District of Columbia include assaults motivated by homophobia on their hate crime statutes, and Ohio is not one of them. However, Ohio residents are making efforts to classify such malevolent attacks as hate crimes, as defined by the Ohio Hate Crimes Law. If someone is threatened, menaced or harassed because of their race or ethnicity it is a third-degree felony, the fifth being the least harsh. Yet, when one is physically harmed the penalty is not enhanced to a higher degree of punishment under Ohio legislation. Still, hate crimes against homosexuals or those based on gender and disability are not a punishable federal offense.

"If a person is hit because of their race or ethnicity [the penalty] is of no significant change [in degree of punishment] and it should be," said Gina Villa, a Cuyahoga County hate crimes prosecutor.



## INSIGHTS

Marcia Jaffe, SGORR coordinator, Christie Bott, English teacher and adviser to the Shaker Alliance, and Dianne Smith of the Global Issues Resource Center at Tri-C East offer their opinions on hate crimes and what they think can be done to help stop them.

**Q:** Why do you think hate crimes have recently been committed in schools and communities?

**Bott:** "People are not accepting diversity. [The crimes] come out of people being hurt. Xenophobia, [fear of strangers] is at the base of the crime."

**Jaffe:** "The Internet is a major contributor to put isolated folks in contact with each other. Their paranoid fantasies take root, and through the Internet they find each other. The people who go on these sites are people whose social skills did not do them any good."

**Q:** What has or what do you think the community can do to help control these problems?

**Jaffe:** We can do it better in the high schools than in the community. The high schools have walls to contain us. It can start in classrooms, but particularly in the high school. People there can be aware and are beginning to realize power. I used to tell my class [of sixth graders], don't add stress to people's lives. It's so hard to get through one day. There are so many opportunities to make someone's life better, but most people don't.

**Smith:** After Littleton, there was a meeting with community educators, government officials and different organizations to talk about the problem. We are trying to take proactive actions, where we can stop it before it starts. We've held workshops for educators to learn how to teach students about hating.

**Q:** Do you think that the hate crimes have come up more often in the last year than in the past?

**Bott:** The violence that is happening is the same, it is just more violent. The gun mentality is out there, and guns are too easy to get.

**Jaffe:** New technology, such as the Internet, helps make people's fantasies become real.

**Smith:** The crimes have happened in areas that people never expected them to happen, which is why it seems like they are occurring more.



"It's stupid that people are judged by the color of their skin. Hopefully, people will realize this in my lifetime."

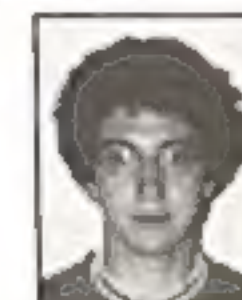
DAVID STONE  
sophomore

## Students weigh in on racism and the KKK rally



"I think that white supremacy is horrible, but we can't help it cause it's what they were taught, to hate people."

ALICIA MACKLEY  
senior



"They were foolish. It looked like a wrestling match -- using foul language and presenting themselves in unprofessional manner."

DOUG MARTIN  
freshman



# Flush away your troubles

• Shaker students no longer fear utilizing the school's bathroom facilities, for it is now a fun place to chill

By Jess Strange  
and Jes Burns  
Staff reporters

Teachers are noticing a new trend at Shaker Heights High School this fall. Students are asking for hall passes at an alarming rate. They leave class with their passes, and return only after extended periods of time.

Are they loitering? Dashing out to the triangle? Fleeing to the guidance office?

No, sir.

They're going to the bathroom.

Three men's and two women's restrooms were renovated at the high school over the summer. The restrooms in the oldest sections of the first, second and third floors are newly equipped with automatic sinks, Airspeed World Dryers instead of paper towels, bathroom stalls that lock and pizza-parlor tile walls in Raider colors.

Junior Andy Molloy was stoked to come back to school once he found out about the automatic sinks in the bathrooms. "The automatic faucets are so sweet," he said. "I skipped one of my classes the first day of school to go play with them."

The renovation of the commons cost \$173,000, according to Carlton Moody, executive director of business and personnel for the Shaker Heights City Schools. "It was pretty obvious why we did it," he said. Moody said the bathrooms hadn't been renovated since 1932, when the school was built. Funds for the renovation came from a bond issue passed in 1996, according to Moody.

Many students who have had the chance to experience the new bathrooms this year were pleas-

antly surprised. They admitted that they visit these bathrooms more than the older ones.

"I go more often to the [new] bathrooms. They're nice and cleaner," senior Janelle Goodman said.

The new bathrooms are finding more and more customers each day, while the old ones wallow in loneliness. "Whenever I go in [the new bathrooms] it brightens up my day. If I have the choice, I always go there instead of the old ones," sophomore Todd Angney said. Security personnel who monitor the halls during class periods are finding more and more students heading for the new bathrooms, too.

"More people like to use the new ones rather than the old ones and will go out of their way to do so," security guard Matthew Tompkins Jr. said.

Not all students are thrilled about the modern amenities.

"I think they're really nice, but I don't like the fact that there



BOYS

are less stalls and no paper towels," junior Chrissy Bates said. "I don't feel like standing there and waiting for my hands to dry, but I think [the new bathrooms] are much nicer than the old ones."

Sophomore Allison Wolkin is less than ecstatic about the new facilities.

"I hate the new bathrooms," she said. "They have no ventilation, the water is disgusting, there aren't enough sinks, and there are only three stalls, so you



Freshman

Tabei Price indulges in the wondrous new automated restroom world located in one of the high school's five newly redesigned bathrooms. You can often find her, and many other Shaker students, playing in the sinks with fascination between classes. After frolicking in the water, automated dryers deprive hands.

Mike Hood/The Shakerite

have to wait."

Moody said the new fixtures were chosen for easy maintenance. "The more things that are automated, the less can go wrong. Technology has come a long way," he said.

Students who are stuck in the science wing wonder whether their restrooms are next for re-hab.

Moody said the district has not decided to renovate the rest of the bathrooms in the building.

"We have no plans right now, but that would be our goal in the future," Moody said.

## renovation BRIEFS

### New gym revs up

North gym renovations will accommodate more sporting events and more fans. According to Carlton Moody, the gym is on track for use by mid-November. Students are waiting excitedly as construction workers strive to make the new gym a hit, but they also are suffering the by-products of hard work -- noise, dust and mysterious smells.

"It will be exciting to see how it turns out," sophomore Carolyn Rund said. "Until then I guess I'll just have to deal with how loud the construction is."

### Library renewed

The library has been outfitted with brand new wood shelving, study carrels and wall paneling. A large circulation desk controls the action from the center of the room.

"I love what they did," librarian Patti Lawrence said. "I'm actually really surprised, they had been promising this for a while."

### Seniors' lounge

Seniors are happy to be liberated from the egress. A new social room, which opened the second week of school, occupies the former offices of the data processing department, below the band room. Equipped with couches and comfy chairs, seniors enjoy their new hangout. However, there are reports of missing amenities.

"We need a microwave, a jukebox like the rest of the senior classes had, a pay phone -- you know, things to make it more of a lounge," senior Kenisha Hill said.

Jess Strange and Jes Burns

# Scanlon's done a lot more than split atoms

By Nate Auerbach  
Feature Co-editor

He started out in bikinis. Now, Bill Scanlon never fails to amuse faculty and students as he performs never-before-done acts such as dressing as a hardcore biker, a roller-blading clown or his wife.

Scanlon began teaching physical science at Shaker four years ago and has already earned fame as an unpredictable, fun-loving class facilitator who constantly sports a mile-long grin.

"I was a little on the geeky side in high school," said Scanlon, a 1986 graduate of Pittsburgh's Fox Chapel High. "I was always concerned about being a part of the group." He added that weekend plans were difficult to come by.

How did that geek become the Outward Bound adventurer lurking in room 2777? "By my junior year I started saying, 'Who the heck cares?' That's when people started to call me and wanted to hang out with me."

When Scanlon ventured off to Penn State University to study physics, he brought his enthusi-

asm with him. "I used to be real involved in the student government area," he said. Thus began Scanlon's Jell-O wrestling career. Scanlon was trying to unify the student body through this activity, which took place amid bales of hay. Because he planned it, he had to go first. "After you were finished, your eyes were sticking together and stuff," he said.

When Scanlon was doing his whopping his opponent and saw that no one else was rushing to the ring, he felt obliged to challenge the crowd. Of all the people who might have stepped up to Billy "The Body" Scanlon, a strapping former high school wrestler seized the opportunity.

The match landed a Jell-O covered Scanlon on the front page of the *Collegian*, the PSU newspaper. The photo was taken as Scanlon shoved a handful of snacks in the face of his arch nemesis. The shot portrayed Scanlon as a muscular dude.

"It was so cool, 'cause the entire time the kid was kickin' my butt," said Scanlon, who never-

"Mr. Scanlon tries to be an adult, but he's too much of a kid."

MATT PHILLIPS  
Senior

theless did not pursue a career with Extreme Championship Wrestling.

Scanlon made the front page again at PSU, but in a much more serious vein. A local radio station, 97Quick, was sponsoring a contest: What's the craziest thing you would do for a trip to Ireland? The ever-Irish Scanlon jumped at the offer for the five-day pub tour "which I thought would be an absolute blast," he said.

Go figure.

For a week, the station chose one call-in contestant a day. Finalists would perform their wacky stunts at a carnival on the following Saturday. In 50 degree, soggy weather, Scanlon took the stage in a hot pink two-piece bikini and proceeded to shave every single hair on his body, leaving merely a 97 on his head to promote the station.

"I was freezing," said the warrior.

Scanlon won a mere second



Robbie Merlo/The Shakerite

Science teacher Bill Scanlon, a Pittsburgh native and avid Steelers fan, is not afraid to show his love for the black and gold in Browns territory.

place. "It was total garbage that I didn't win," he said. The winner was a girl who swallowed 97 goldfish. "Everyone there was saying I should have won."

Scanlon regrew his hair, however, and moved on to a teaching career. His rowdy past is evident in school.

"Mr. Scanlon tries to be an adult, but he's too much of a kid," senior Matt Phillips said. "However, he's still respected as a good teacher in the school."

At Shaker, Scanlon has par-

ticipated in Youth Ending Hunger, advised the class of '00 and attended athletic events.

"He's doing a good job," science department head Rod MacLeod said. "He's very energetic, definitely dedicated. He's enthusiastic. He's very much involved in things. He's a rugged individual."

"He's nice and helps us a lot," sophomore and former student Inshirah Grimes said. "He gives us a lot of review so we can get good grades on tests."

teacher  
FEATURE



# Pop culture takes off at airport

## It's more rowdy than the Dawg Pound, and less expensive, too

By Nate Auerbach  
and Jesse Griffiths  
Feature editors

If you want to listen to a foreign woman speak on the phone or witness a dog sniffing through luggage for drugs, then we have a place for you. Even if you just want to hang out in overpriced, tacky restaurants or scuffle along backwards on moving walkways, take a journey to Cleveland Hopkins Airport, where all your dreams can come true.

This massive building temporarily houses all types of people who speak a multitude of languages. And if you like to hang out at Beachwood Place and buy socks at Abercrombie for \$20, your budget needs can be fulfilled at the many

clothing, food and accessory emporiums. Let the commercial stand corrected, "Like no other place, Hopkins Airport."

With hopes of finding a new hangout, your favorite feature co-editors ventured to this haven of random humor that was constructed to get you places, but, interestingly, is located in the middle of nowhere.

We began our excursion in the parking garage. As we took our first steps, we passed a kind, sweet and disgruntled parking technician. Instead of using her baton to persuade a befuddled driver, this gentle lady resorted to a pointed comment: "Damn! What do I need to do? Fall on the hood!" she exclaimed as the minivan bore down on her.

As we entered the airport, our undercover journalist radar kicked in. A little girl, mesmerized by the magical catapulting ascender, took numerous trips, batting at the enchanting handrail like a frisky cat. Naturally, we figured there

must be something to this ritual, so we joined her in a quest for enlightenment. We miss the days when it was considered OK to play on the escalator. Amazingly, people looked at us like we were 15 years late for the circus. After about 10 minutes, we sadly decided it was time to move on to our most trying task -- security.

Along our path, we encountered two of the most enthusiastic citizens of Cleveland. These fine young women were clad in hard-core Dawg Pound getup. We discovered them in front of a juke box, chanting "Bernie, Bernie. Oh baby. How you can throw," to the tune of The Kingsman's "Louie, Louie."

Next we picked our way through a jungle of travelers to pass through the metal detectors. When our turn finally arrived, things didn't go smoothly. Nate got through like butter on a hot ear of corn. Jesse, however, set off the incessant beeper.

*"I meet the coolest people here. It's awesome. You get to see a multitude of emotion."*

BRANDON WHEELER  
Sunglass Hut employee

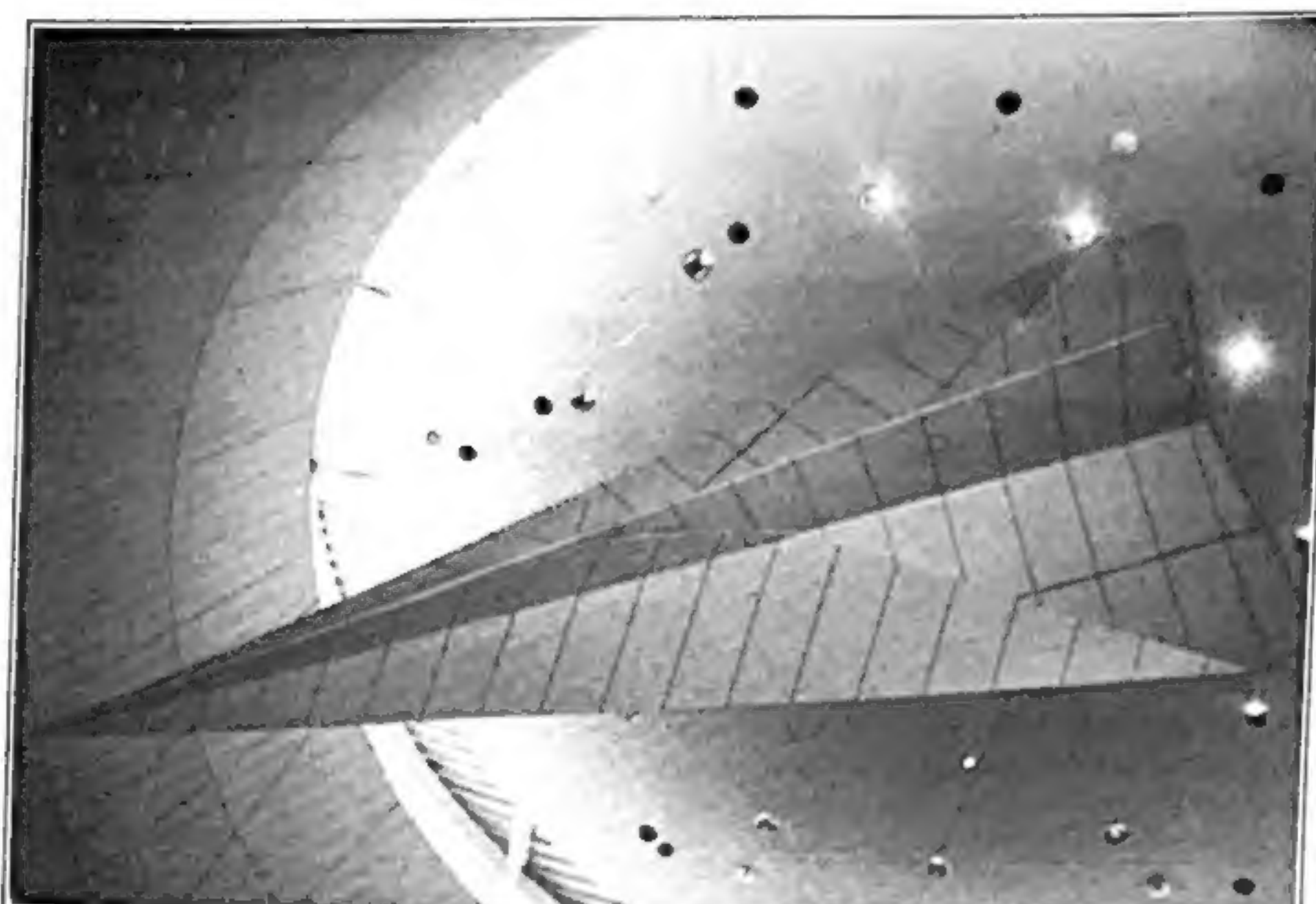
Luckily, though, Jesse wasn't strip-searched or even patted down. The nice security officer explained that our camera set off the detector and held onto it until Jesse made the pass once again.

Now we were free to roam around the concourse as long as we wanted. Airports, after all, never close.

We spoke with employees at curbside check-in, random shops, and gate D9 -- which we reached after a 15 minute trek. We learned of the true merits of the airport: all the people you can meet, and goody, greatness of Cinnabon.

There is so much to explore at our local international airport that every time you enter the sliding doors, a new world awaits your presence. But during your adventure in Northeast Ohio's greatest tourist attraction, keep this advice close to your heart:

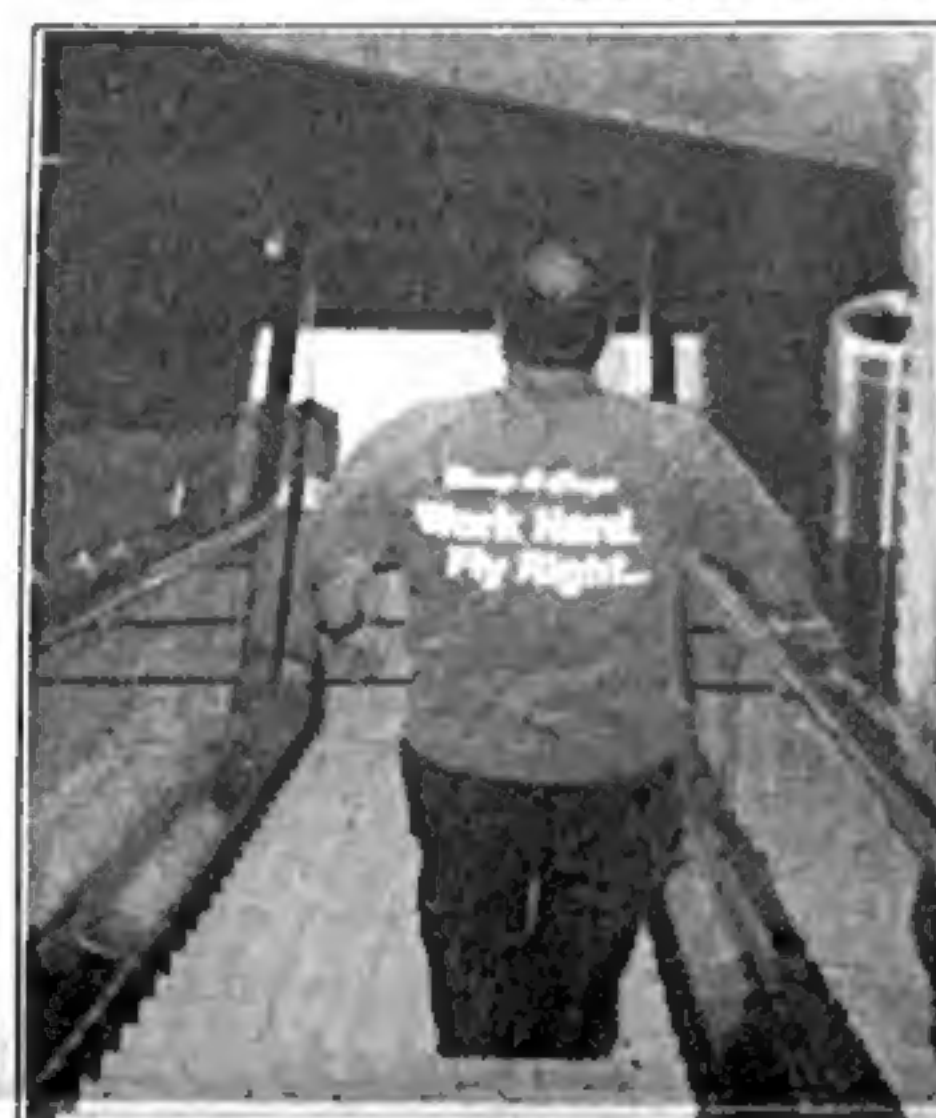
"Caution: the moving walkway is ending."



Jesse Griffiths/The Shakerite



Jesse Griffiths/The Shakerite



Jesse Griffiths/The Shakerite

Along the way to concourse D at Hopkins Airport, a resident of our nation's capital would wax nostalgic at the sight of this giant, Smithsonian-esque paper airplane model, which dangles precariously above the escalator. Further along the trip, just when you thought it was safe for a Steelers fan to travel to Cleveland, Hopkins airport installed malicious Cleveland Browns security and posted numerous "Beware of Dawgs" signs throughout the building. Still other enterprising individuals rent ad space on their bodies in order to afford scrumptious airport food, as this man did for the hard working, right flying folks at Continental Airlines.

## COULD YOU USE ANOTHER HOLE IN YOUR HEAD?

### • KIDS' BODY PARTS SET OFF AIRPORT METAL DETECTORS UPON DEPARTURE FROM OVERSEAS

By Megan Johnston  
Staff reporter

While many students may travel abroad to gain worldly experiences, some may be leaving this country simply because it is the only way to get something on their body pierced without the permission of a parent.

This summer Shaker students traveled to Spain, Mexico, Germany, Israel, England, France and Holland and returned with some permanent pieces of art.

"I liked the idea of getting something that I would always have with me from Israel, and I knew no one would expect it from me," said junior Abby Penzner, who had her nose pierced this summer.

Senior Emily Stear had her navel pierced in Germany this summer because she "thought it would be fun to have something that not everyone knows about. It's not very visual, only your friends really know about it."

With a large fraction of the school pierced or tat-

toed in some way, peer pressure sometimes figures into the decision to get permanent art.

"My friends said I needed to have something pierced and I had been thinking about it," said senior Jacob Feitler, who got his eyebrow pierced in England.

Piercing, only legal in the United States for minors if accompanied by a parent or guardian, is much less of an ordeal elsewhere.

Senior Emily Blanton also got her belly button pierced in Germany.

"You had to be 18 or with a parent, but my host just vouched for me," Blanton said.

Stear said that customers in Germany had to be 16 or older to get a piercing.

Feitler got his eyebrow pierced in a parlor in England where customers had to be 17 or older and were required to sign a legal document.

However, it would not be this simple back in Ohio.

"Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent with an ID that matches the

HOLE LOCATED:  
Left nostril

COUNTRY:  
Israel

PIERCING COST:  
\$3.50

REQUIRED AGE?  
none

*"I liked the idea of getting something that I would always have with me from Israel."*

- ABBY PENZNER, JUNIOR



HOLE LOCATED:  
Left eyebrow

COUNTRY:  
England

PIERCING COST:  
\$20.00

REQUIRED AGE?  
17

*"One girl noticed I had my eyebrow pierced and asked if I listened to punk rock."*

- JACOB FEITLER, SENIOR



HOLE LOCATED:  
Navel cavity

COUNTRY:  
Germany

PIERCING COST:  
\$15.00

REQUIRED AGE?  
18

*"My mom doesn't know, and my dad just accepts it."*

- EMILY BLANTON, SENIOR



name of the person getting pierced," an employee at The Illustrator's Nightshades Tattoos said. The real trouble arises when students return to their home and their parents find out about their child's extracurricular activities while they were traveling abroad.

"I had my belly-button pierced in Mexico, but my mom thought Mexico was dirty and it would be better if I took it out. It cost \$4," senior Hillary Schwallie said.

Surprisingly, many par-

ents were not that angry at their children's decisions.

"I called my parents before I had it done," Penzner said. "My mom didn't want me to have it done there, and my dad was indifferent."

"Neither one of my parents really cared," Stear said.

"My parents were glad they knew before and they got over it, but they were personally disgusted by it," Feitler said. Some parents are simply left in the dark.

"My parents don't

know," said one anonymous senior who had her belly button pierced in Germany.

"My mom doesn't know, and my dad just accepts it," Blanton said. As for the rest of the public and their views on piercings, opinions vary.

"One girl noticed that I had my eyebrow pierced and asked if I listened to punk rock. But I will even get compliments from little old ladies," Feitler said.

"Most schools and jobs don't like piercing," an em-

ployee at G & G Tattooing Inc. said.

Although most piercings seem to appear when students return from traveling out of the country, it is a growing trend in the United States... with a parent's permission.

"We get a lot of people coming in to have their eyebrow, belly button or tongue pierced. Everyone does it, even people in suits," said an employee at Finest Lines Tattoos and Piercing Emporium.



# From old favorites to new comedy

• **Superstar** has plenty of laughs, **Yellow Submarine** soundtrack still a classic

**Superstar**  
In a time when hellish high school experiences rule the TV screen, Molly Shannon and her cohorts have made a comedy that depicts the light-hearted triumph of outcast students over the bubbly, popular clique.

**Superstar** features Shannon, a Shaker Heights native, who plays Mary Katherine Gallagher, a socially rejected Irish Catholic schoolgirl yearning for a Hollywood style romance. Her character comes from a *Saturday Night Live* skit that began five years ago. Shannon and co-star Will Ferrell appeared together previously in *A Night at the Roxbury* as well as on *SNL*. Lorne Michaels, the creator and executive producer of *SNL*, also produced this movie.

Shannon's character, Mary, strives to kiss Sky (Ferrell), the most popular guy in the school who is strangely admired for his corny dance moves. Sky's bulimic, blond girlfriend, Evian (Elaine Hendrix), portrays the stereotypically popular, superficial high school cheerleader. When Mary learns there will be a school talent show to raise money for Multiple Sclerosis, she decides to try out and strut her stuff, hoping that she will catch Sky's glance and maybe even convince him to kiss her. The dance contest winner also gets a free trip to Hollywood and the chance to be an extra in a movie, something Mary (hence the title) has also dreamed about. Overly excited (as she is about everything) about her new plan, Mary dashes home to tell her grandma (Glynis Johns) and later is visited by her twisted guardian-angel-Jesus-God-creation (Ferrell's second role), who gives her love advice. After practicing with all her special education classmates, Mary tests her luck at the talent show. The results? You'll see.

**Superstar** features consistently funny scenes and a hilari-

ous cast. Highlights include a robot dance scene in the high school cafeteria, a humorous scene depicting the death of Mary's parents and several passionate tree-kissing scenes. **Superstar** opens in theaters next Friday, Oct. 8.



Allison Pollock

Out of Four

## Weird Al

Remember second grade when it didn't matter what you were doing on Saturday night, you had the chance to go to bed at 9 p.m. and your hardest homework assignment was completing your spelling workbook? Remember who your favorite musician was? Chances are it was "Weird Al" Yankovic. As an 8-year-old, you couldn't get enough of that odd looking fellow who wrote songs about hamsters and lasagna.

Lucky for you, Yankovic is back with a brand new catalog of parodies and other knee-slapping hits.

The new album, *Running With Scissors*, is typical of Yankovic's style, that is, taking popular songs and re-inventing them with new lyrics.

This album features two songs destined to become Yankovic classics. "The Saga Begins," tells the story of *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace*, and is set to the tune of the Don McLean classic "American Pie."

Yankovic also pokes fun at The Offspring's "Pretty Fly for a White Guy," with his "Pretty Fly for a Rabbi."

The album is not very long and may not be worth the price, but if you're looking for a wacky album that pokes fun at popular culture, you'll appreciate *Running with Scissors*.



Out of Four



Molly Shannon, a native of Shaker Heights, has a new movie coming out called **Superstar**. She stars with Will Ferrell, a fellow *Saturday Night Live* cast member.

Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

## Yellow Submarine

When midnight signaled the official beginning of Sept. 14, a dream of Beatles fans around the country finally came true. The long awaited re-release of the 1968 animated film *Yellow Submarine* was issued. With it, a digitally remastered version of the film songs was released.

The album contains songs that were in the film but did not make it onto the original soundtrack to leave room for producer George Martin's film score.

Here Beatles classics such as "Eleanor Rigby" and "All You Need Is Love" are revamped and have never sounded as clear and as perfect as they now do. To put it another way, words cannot express the sheer beauty and genius that these songs possess. Lesser known songs such as "Hey Bulldog," "All Together Now" and "It's all Too Much" have found new life with the remastering.

Any die-hard Beatles fan will appreciate what has been done to these songs, and even the casual listener will not be able to escape the impressive quality of this album.



Nate Levin

Out of Four

## Ordinary People

Sometimes the search for a good book can lead to a look back at great novels of the past. Judith Guest's 1976 novel *Ordinary People*, which was made into a multiple Oscar-winning drama in 1980, is a great end to one such search.

The story centers on the Jarrett family, still reeling from the death of their son a year earlier. Not only do the Jarrets need to deal with Buck's death, they must also handle their individual struggles.

Calvin, the loving and vulnerable father worries endlessly about his family's mental stability; Beth, the high-strung preppy mother seems to be concerned only with the family's reputation in her country-club social circle, and Conrad, the edgy, reserved brother doesn't help the healing process when he attempts suicide. The family agrees on one thing: they want everything to return to normal.

Reading about this "normal" family struggle is an incredibly heart-wrenching feat, as they must ultimately heal before they lose more than just Buck. *Ordinary People* deserves more than just a little dusting!



Jerry Healer

Out of Four

## the box OFFICE

10/2

**Mercyful Fate**  
Agora Theater

10/3

**Run DMC and The Sugar Hill Gang**  
CSU Convocation Center

10/3

**Les Nubians**  
Odeon Concert Club

10/4

**B.B. King**  
Rock and Roll Hall of Fame

10/6

**Styx**  
Akron Civic Theatre

10/6

**Govt Mule**  
Odeon Concert Club

10/7

**Robert Cray Band**  
Odeon Concert Club

10/12

**ZZ Top with Lynyrd Skynyrd**  
CSU Convocation Center

10/16

**Melissa Etheridge**  
Akron Civic Theatre

10/17

**World Wrestling Federation**  
Gund Arena

10/29

**World Cup women's soccer team**  
CSU Convocation Center

# From the halls of Shaker to Carnegie Hall

For senior Marc Djokic, a virtuoso violinist, it's a very real possibility



Mary O'Connell/The Shakerites

Shaker senior Marc Djokic will have the chance to perform this winter in a nationally broadcast concert at his original home in Halifax, Nova Scotia. "I'm looking forward to this one," he said.

By Rob Rains  
Staff Reporter

The melodious sounds of the violin fill the halls of the Cleveland Institute of Music as senior Marc Djokic makes his way from his classroom. Unlike most rooms in Shaker, Djokic's classrooms have no desks, computers or windows.

"I hate these rooms," he says as he gestures toward the egg-white square practice room. "They remind me of mental institutes."

Though he isn't fond of the practice rooms, Djokic appreciates his lifestyle. He lives in the dormitory at CIM and attends the Institute on a scholarship. He also attends Shaker Heights High School for part of the day.

A quick glance at his dorm room clearly shows that it is the home of a teenager. Clothes are on his bed and floor. A refrigerator and large stereo are on the shelf. "My room wasn't like this when I was with my parents," he said.

Djokic, originally from Halifax, Nova Scotia, first visited CIM in 1997 when his parents were on sabbatical in Cleveland. They moved into Shaker Towers and were set to live there for a year. Djokic enrolled at Shaker for the first part of the day and then worked in the preparatory program at CIM the second half.

When the year was up, Djokic applied to the Young Artists Program at CIM, a special program for exceptional, committed young musicians. He was accepted and received a scholarship. Now he has the opportunity to study with some of the nation's top musicians.

"Up until I was 14 years old my father was my only teacher for the violin," Djokic explained. "He was my guide into this world of music."

## a&e raider of THE MONTH

Once accepted, Djokic moved into the dormitory at the institute. "The freedom was overwhelming at first," he said. "But I had a job to do and I stayed focused."

Djokic's hard work and determination are just some of the factors that his fellow classmates notice about him. "I like his playing," said Peter Bahng, a fellow student at CIM. "He has a good sound."

Though a student of the violin, Djokic is also a hardcore rock 'n' roll fan. His favorite acts include Metallica, Nine Inch Nails and the ever-controversial Marilyn Manson. "He is an artist like I am an artist," Djokic said about Manson. "I respect that."

When Djokic finds a spare minute between practice and lessons, he likes to take advantage of his surroundings to go out with his friends. "We go downtown to the Flats or to Tower City," Djokic said.

This violin prodigy prides himself on being original with his music and tries to add his own flavor to a piece. When asked to describe his style, Djokic said, "[I am] very individual. I try to be creative and get into what the composer wanted. I try to make it different from the way anyone else has ever played it. I try to make it sound so that they'll listen to it and say 'Oh, that's Marc playing. I recognize his playing.'"

People can usually tell by ear that Djokic is playing. "I try to keep how [the composer] wanted it to sound but at the same time I want to keep it my way, very different from everyone else."

Djokic is avid about utilizing his talents. "A different sound not only comes from the instrument that you are playing on. It doesn't necessarily come from the bow that you are using, it comes from you and your capabilities," he explains.

When Djokic attends college next fall, he plans to study the violin no matter what. "I want to go to Curtis Institute in Philadelphia, Indiana University, Juillard in New York City, [or] I might just stay here at CIM," Djokic said.



# Peace, love and...rioting?

• Woodstock '99 proves original festival can't be duplicated

By Nate Levin  
Staff Reporter

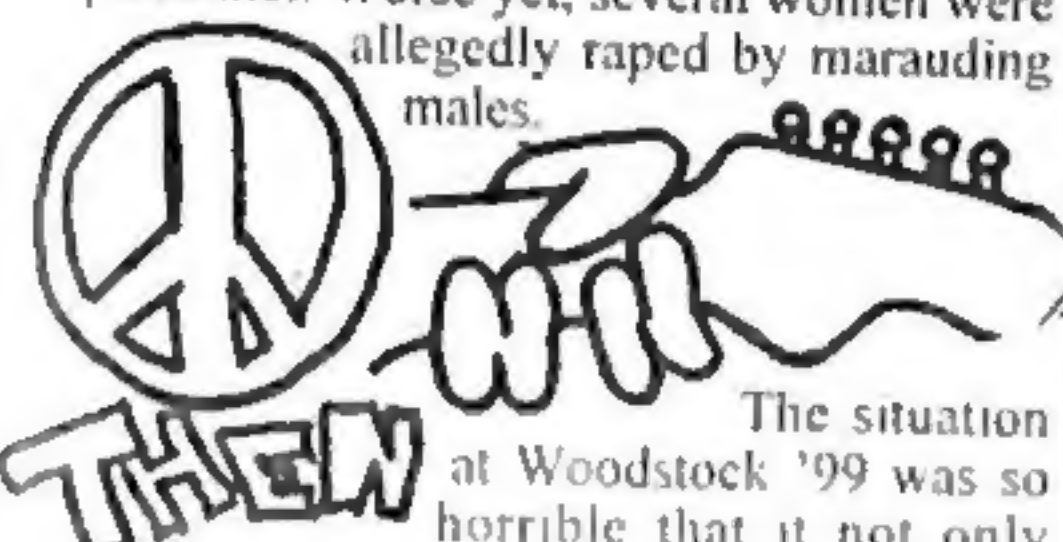
In August 1969, more than 500,000 people gathered at Max Yasger's farm outside of Woodstock, New York, for a rock 'n' roll show. The original purpose of the event — to fund a recording studio — was quickly forgotten as hundreds upon hundreds of young adults banded together to demonstrate against the Vietnam War.

As the three-day festival rocked on with some of the biggest acts in rock 'n' roll, other themes of the festival became apparent. The concert became a orgy of free love and mind-altering drugs. "Three days of Peace, Love and Music," as it was billed, came true on all levels, and the festival lives on as the single greatest musical gathering ever.

In July, 1999, the second attempt in five years was made to recapture the magic and rekindle the "hippie" karma of the original Woodstock.

It failed.

During the second night of the show, thousands of angry fans set fires, executed random acts of destruction and hurled unruly attitudes toward security personnel. Worse yet, several women were allegedly raped by marauding males.



The situation at Woodstock '99 was so horrible that it not only provoked national media attention, but also forced New York Governor George Pataki to issue a statement saying "As long as I am governor, nothing like Woodstock '99 will ever happen again in my state."

The impact of the fiasco was still evident at the Sept. 9 MTV Video Music Awards. During his acceptance speech, Adam Horowitz of the Beastie Boys asked his colleagues to take extra security precautions "to ensure the safety of the girls and women who come to our shows."

Should the carnage of Woodstock '99 be brushed off as the acts of "restless youth?"

Of course, the answer is no. Do youth understand the importance of the peace and love themes of the original Woodstock? Are teenagers and young adults capable of participating in non-violent, musical love fests?

Thankfully, this summer proved such participation is possible, despite the mayhem of Woodstock '99.

For the umpteenth year in a row, Phish, the jam band from Vermont, held a two-day music festival in Oswego, New York.

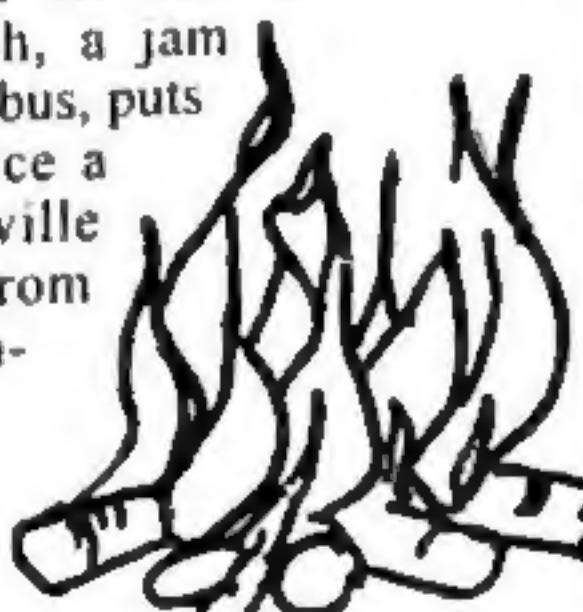
Shaker senior Howie Dingle was there. "Both the concert and the atmosphere were amazing," he said. "All of the people at the show are so great. [The crowd] is more of a family than at any other concert."

Phish is not the only band that attract peaceful fans to its shows.

Ekoostik Hookah, a jam band from Columbus, puts on a festival twice a year. Hookahville gathers people from all over the country every Memorial and Labor Day weekends.

The reckless violence and destruction of Woodstock '99 may very well have been an isolated incident, but the culture that permeated the unfortunate weekend should in no way detract from the original Woodstock spirit.

It is safe to say that the original Woodstock generation is thriving, preaching harmony and peace. They may not be worshipping Hendrix, or protesting with Country Joe McDonald. They may not be motivated by the sounds of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young or The Jefferson Airplane, but flower power is just as strong as it was during those three days in 1969.



# I know what scared you this summer

• Thrillers such as *Blair Witch Project* ruled the box office

By Megan Kortemeyer  
A&E editor

In October of 1994, three student filmmakers disappeared into the woods near Burkittsville, Maryland while shooting a documentary. A year later their footage was found.

Recognize this? There is a good chance that most people know which summer film is described in this quote. For the few who don't, it's *The Blair Witch Project*.

In a summer that saw the release of several scary movies, *The Blair Witch Project* was unquestionably the most hyped and anticipated of them all. But it wasn't the only one of its kind. Two other horror flicks, *The Haunting* and *The Sixth Sense*, were released.

*The Haunting* was a perfect example of a studio spending tons of money on big stars and elaborate special effects, but still making a movie you forget as soon as you walk out of the theater. The plot was weak, the ending stupid and the effects grew old after the first five minutes. Combined, these faults made this movie ridiculous and not very scary. Despite mostly bad reviews, audiences eager to be scared flocked to the movie that ended up earning \$89 million. Studio executives had to thank their lucky stars that *The Haunting* was the first horror movie to be released this summer. Without that factor, *The Haunting* would most likely have been forgotten in the crush of summer movies.

The exact opposite of *The Haunting* was *The Blair Witch Project*. Made on a budget of \$40,000, its premise is unique. When it premiered at the Sundance Film Festival it terrified audiences. *Rolling Stone* magazine called it "scary as hell." The movie looked so realistic that many people were convinced the three

"filmmakers" really were missing. A Florida detective even offered his services to help find them. As the film's directors did nothing to stop the rampant rumors and conspiracy theories, this creative marketing generated excitement and conversation among moviegoers — something which had not been done for a long time.

Another reason for its pre-release popularity was the fact that many people had no idea what to expect. Before its release, there were very few television and print advertisements, and previews for the film were short and consisted of nothing more than pitch blackness and screams in the background. The directors instead chose a more unconventional method (the Internet) to promote their movie. And it paid off. The movie has earned \$133 million.

Anticipation continued to build, but when the movie finally opened, it was a let-down. The three actors, although talented, at times talked (and argued) endlessly, and just when it was getting really scary, it ended. The movie did have one crucial thing which *The Haunting* lacked: fear of the unknown. What happened to the characters at the end of *The Blair Witch Project*? Nobody knows for sure. In contrast, it's fairly obvious what happened to the characters at the end of *The Haunting*.



This is supposed to be scary? A large amount of hype for the movie *The Blair Witch Project* made these nostrils the most famous in America.

The surprise hit of the summer, however, was *The Sixth Sense*. Expectations were not high for this movie starring Bruce Willis. The story of a boy who sees dead people and the psychologist who tries to help him, it is a thriller that steadily builds to a climax nobody expects. In addition, it has great performances from Willis and Haley Joel Osment, who plays the boy. So far, the movie has earned \$138.9 million, the sixth-highest grossing movie of the summer.

Scary movies continue to dominate the box office, and these three films are no exception. While some are disappointing, over-hyped, or just not scary, there is usually one that will thrill people and keep them coming back for more.

# Many new stations on the dial

• Cleveland radio undergoes changes, many students unhappy

By Julie Redline  
Staff Reporter

Over the past few months, Shaker radio listeners have been flipping those dials in search of the stations they used to love. Many of the Cleveland-based radio stations have been playing a game of musical chairs, switching genres and target audiences, leaving many students confused and without a familiar station to tune into.

Many of the students who used to be loyal listeners of Jammin' 92.3, a former top 40 and pop music station, do not know where to turn now. The station was especially popular with teens.

Junior Jenny Ludgin misses the music she used to hear on 92.3.

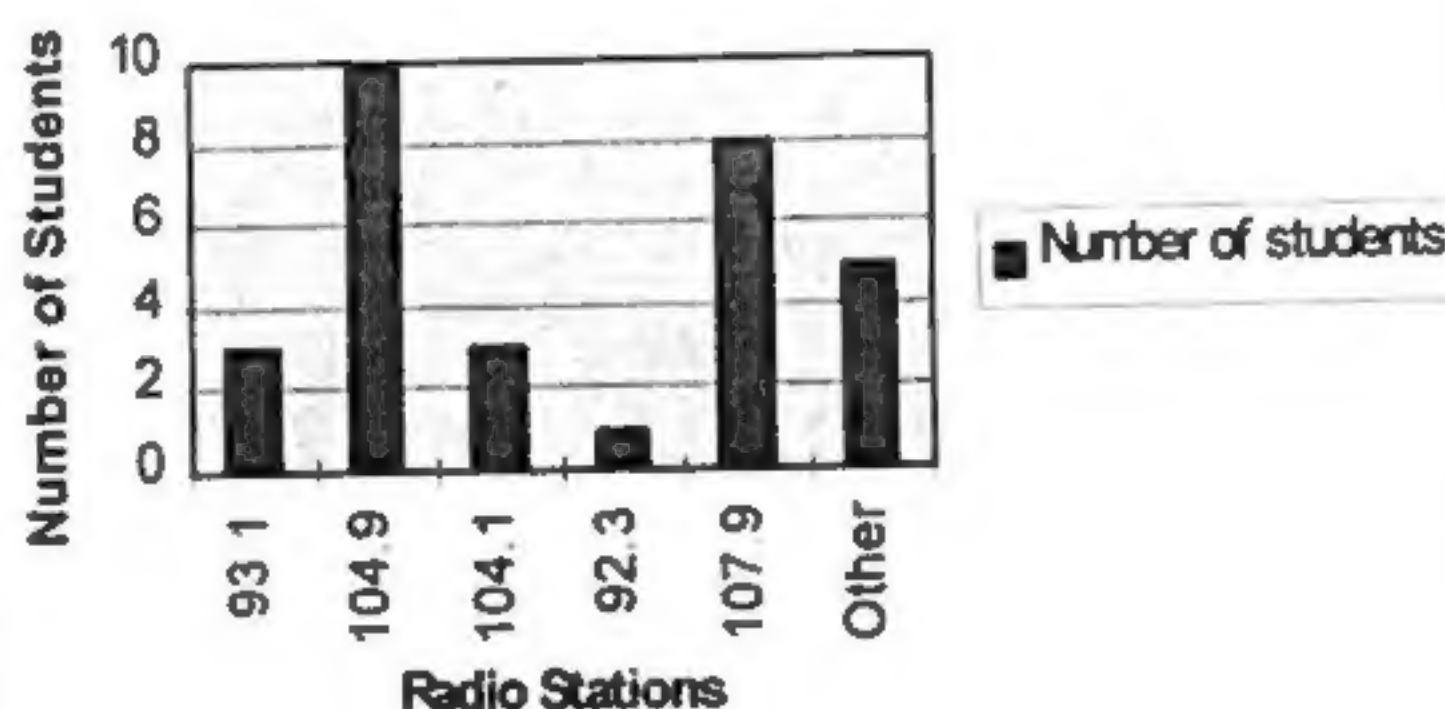
"I used to listen to 92.3, but now I listen to Q104," Ludgin said. "92 was better than 104 is."

Another former 92.3 listener, sophomore Rosemary Yako, explained that her ideal station would play "a mixed variety of R&B, pop, and rock." She said that Jammin' 92.3 was the closest to this ideal as she's heard in Cleveland.

Despite this seemingly large interest in pop music, the program directors at Jammin' 92.3 decided to change their format after extensive research into what was needed and wanted in Cleveland. The station also was bought out by a corporation from out of state.

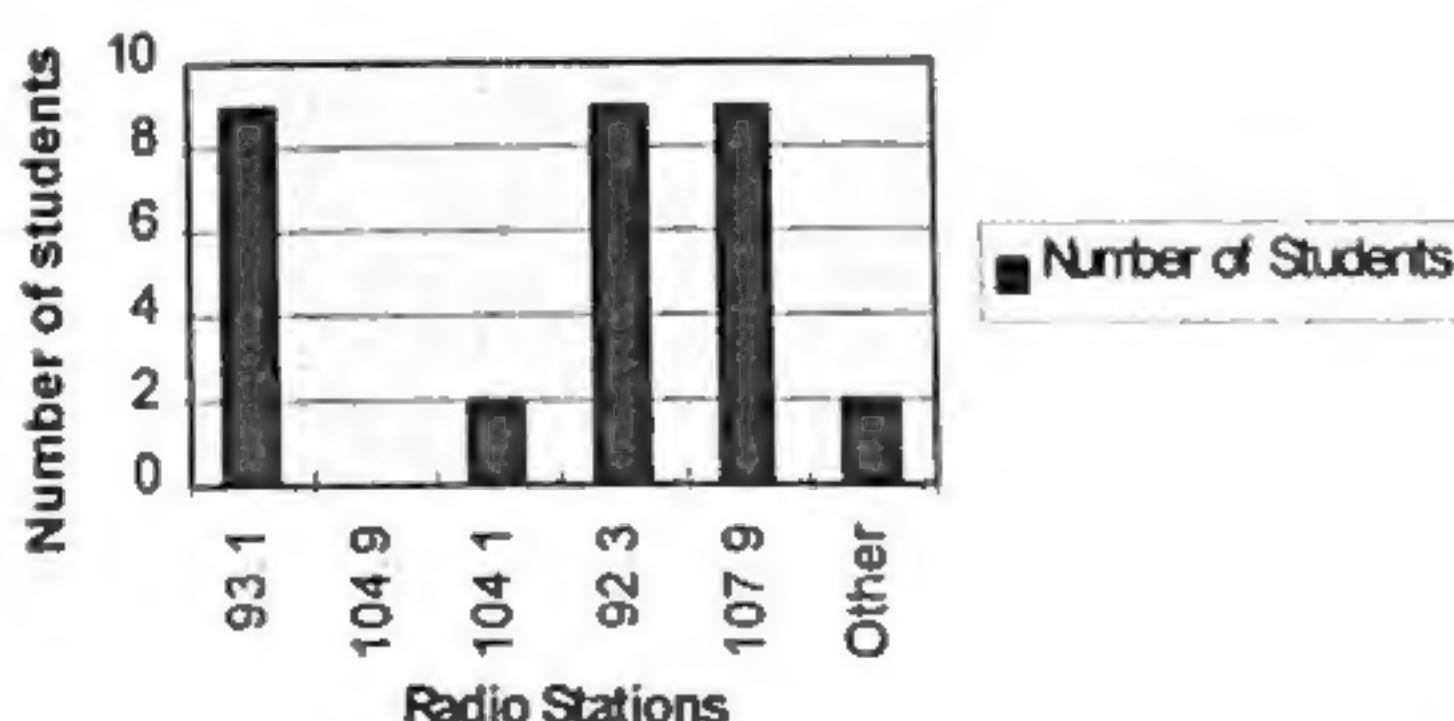
"They've switched formats. They now play a blend of Motown with a great variety of artists with different rhythm," said Lynn Tolliver Jr., programming director

Radio Listening for 1999-2000



Cleveland radio has undergone changes in the past year. Based on an informal survey of 30 students, 104.9 has seen a huge increase in listeners, while 92.3 has lost many.

Radio Listening 1998-1999



for the station

Since 92.3 has switched formats, another station has picked up the top 40 format. The former Christian radio station 104.9 has become an automated pop music station. This station has no disc jockeys and is a prerecorded lineup that plays repeatedly.

"I used to listen to 92.3 and 107.9, but now I listen to 104.9," said sophomore Sarah Lissauer. "I like it because it plays

teenybopper music."

Another major recent change in radio stations was the switch of alternative music station 107.9 The End to an urban format. This change has caused some students to go searching for a new alternative rock station while it has created new programming for others to listen to.

"I used to listen to 107.9," freshman Hannah Lavin said. "Now I don't listen to the radio as much. When I do, I usually listen to 106.5."

The new 107.9 has been a positive change for some students. For Junior Bianca Butts, 107.9 has become a listening option since 92.3 stopped playing pop music.

"I like the type of music that 107.9 is playing now," Butts said.

Junior Danielle DeBerry is also a newcomer to 107.9. "They play music that I like, the R&B and urban stuff," said DeBerry, who especially likes listening to Whitney Houston and Jarout. "I used to listen to 92.3 and 93.1, and I occasionally still do."

The attitude of many listeners that there is no really good radio in Cleveland was expressed by Mariah Jernberg-Briggs. "In general, people I know don't listen to as much radio [since the changes]," said Jernberg-Briggs, a former 107.9 listener. "I think even before the changes with radio, most people preferred to listen to cds."

When The End switched to an urban format a few months ago, it provided competition for 93.1, which had previously been the only urban music station in Cleveland. As a result, 93.1 has seen a drop in listeners among Shaker students, whereas 107.9 remains strong.



# Shaker takes the lead in fall sports

•Field hockey, tennis, golf, soccer, football and volleyball attempt to earn better records than previous seasons

By Jenny Heisler  
and Nicole Majorczyk  
Sports Co-Editors

Fall sports teams have begun their seasons with a bang, as the women's tennis team has already conquered the LEL title.

The football team rallied to beat Mentor and stay undefeated, and the field hockey team has suffered only one loss. All squads hope their early success will propel them to greater heights in post-season competition.

Shaker superstars are leading the way to a combined Raider record of 60-25-2.

## Cross Country

Coach: Henry Woodard  
Captains: Charlotte Jacobs, Lauren Richard and Stephen Courtright  
Returning letter winners: 7  
Last Year: 6-7  
This year: 4-3

The women's cross country team is off to a positive start. Last weekend the team traveled to University School for a meet. Sophomore Whitney Meredith ran a 22:06 5K, the fastest time on the team. That time earned her tenth place. Teammate freshman Krystal Turner took seventh place in the meet.

Other key athletes for the Raider harriers are Lia Silver, Alex Bentayou and Jennifer Fitzman.

Men's cross country is performing equally well this season. Last weekend at the University School meet, senior Stephen Courtright ran an 18:26 5K. The team earned second place overall.

Other top contributors this season are seniors David Thompson and Nathan Shepherd. The team will travel to Gilmore Friday night.

## Field Hockey

Coach: Linda Betley  
Captains: Lauren Markt, Kira Muerhcke  
Returning letter winners: 13  
Last Year: lost to Hawken in sectionals  
This year: 4-1-1

Led by a powerful group of veteran seniors, the field hockey team looks to finish better than last year.

In racing out to a 4-1-1 start, the Raiders have outscored their opponents 23-6. Junior midfielder Jenny Heisler leads the team with 7 goals. The squad has much depth defensively as well, with senior Andrea Abramoff in goal and senior Jenny Hill at sweeper. The Raiders hope to make it to state competition this year.

## Football

Coach: Dave Sedmak  
Captains: 19 seniors  
Returning letter winners: 20  
Last Year: 10-1  
This year: 5-0



Austin Frank stretches his stride in a recent cross country meet.

The 1999-2000 football team is replicating last year's undefeated start.

Once again, the victory streak includes wins over some of the toughest teams in the league.

Last weekend the team rallied to stun Mentor 21-10 at the annual Red Tag Day game. Junior Jameson Evans scored the final touchdown on a 100-yard run after an interception.

Running back, junior Jason Wright, has already scored 14 touchdowns and leads the Raiders.

Other statistical leaders are junior Shaun Dean, who

has 58 tackles, senior Jhermel Goss, who has snagged 3 interceptions, and senior Raychade Nellembsbey, who leads the team with the most eight sacks.

The team will travel to Valley Forge in Parma Saturday night for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff. Waiting in the wings are the Elyria Pioneers, Shaker's Oct. 9, 2 p.m. Homecoming date.

## Golf

Coach: Bob Wonson  
Captain: Sam Zimmer  
Returning letter winners: 6  
Last Year: 12-14  
This year: 13-10

In one of the best seasons the golf team has compiled this decade, look out for senior Dave Kresnye and juniors Robbie Markt and Sam Zimmer, who lead

the way.

Zimmer shot a 37 against Eastlake North, and medaled in the team's match against top-ranked Normandy.

Also, the team placed second out of 12 in the Cleveland Heights Invitational early in the season.

Juniors Eric Edelsburg and Andy Powers and sophomores Jeremy Katz and Matt Smith have also contributed to the team's above .500 start.

## Men's Soccer

Coach: Patrick Sweeney  
Captains: Greg Rawson, Derek Segesdy, John Jackson  
Returning letter winners: 15  
Last Year: 15-2-2  
This Year: 3-3

The men's soccer team is hoping for another stellar season.

"The team has every bit of the ability to match last year's. We'll be a good team with over 10 victories," head coach Patrick Sweeney said.

The team lost three seniors last year, and players such as junior Zac Cooper, sophomores Jason Scudamore and Dasan Robinson hope to pick up the slack.

"We have a fairly solid and competitive team that can be one of the strongest on the east side," Sweeney said.

## Women's Soccer

Coach: Rob Bricker  
Captains: Emily Ackerman, Emily Blanton, Erin Forquer, Amy Gross  
Returning letter winners: 11  
Last Year: lost to Hudson in sectionals. This Year: 4-5-1

Lake Erie League foes better watch out in the next couple of years as freshmen



Sophomore Emilie Vicchio advances the ball toward the goal.

sophomore Lauren Gibbons lead at singles, while senior Dashi Singham, freshman Amber Rucker, juniors Sarah Morgenstern and Traci Williams rotate at doubles.

Last season, Swary and '99 graduate Kim Lyons played doubles at states; the team hopes to repeat the trip to Columbus with even more players this year. The women have also netted the LEL title by beating rival Cleveland Heights, 4-1.

There appears to be no end in sight, as the undefeated JV team is led by sophomores Alexandra Marcotty, Gabe Scherzer and Karen Schaefer.

## Volleyball

Coach: Stacy Bongini  
Captains: Tory Ribar, Tracy Jacobs  
Returning letter winners: 6  
Last Year: 12-10  
This year: 10-3

Junior Tracy Jacobs is a key member of every team she plays for. She plays well on every court.

Volleyball is no exception, as Jacobs has helped the Raiders to a successful start.

Juniors Ariel Heilbron, a starting setter, Erin Riley, a middle hitter, Meredith Jones, and senior Tory Ribar all contribute to success of this year's team.

The Raiders hope to defeat the Mentor Cardinals, who were the state runners-up in 1999. At one point during their first meeting of the year, the Raiders fought the Cardinals to a 14-14 tie. Although Shaker eventually lost the match, the Raiders took pride in the effort.



Shaker football defeated Mentor on Saturday, 21-10. The Raiders are on their way to an undefeated season with a 5-0 start.

David Mayers/The Shakerite



# SWARY, ROBINSON RULE SEPTEMBER RAIDERS

## • Swary aims at states again

Sport: Tennis

Year: Junior

**Achievement:** Swary, who has played varsity tennis since her freshman year, is playing first singles this year and went to states last year in doubles, while playing softball in the spring. The tennis team currently is 9-0, and Liz is 5-2. She was recently featured as Player of the Week in *The Plain Dealer*.

**Teammate's comment:** "Liz is a really sweet girl. We've played on varsity together for three years. She's a really upbeat person. She's not afraid to lose and isn't intimidated by her opponent."  
—Cheryl Blackwell

**Future plans:** "I hope to play college in tennis and beyond. Tennis is one of those sports you can play forever, so I'm sure that when I grow up and get old I'll still be playing."



Swary, poised for attack, was recently featured as Player of the Week in *The Plain Dealer* and has posted a record of 5-2.



Liz Swary

**"LAST YEAR, I LOVED GOING TO STATES IN DOUBLES . . . ALSO, WINNING SOLON DOUBLES WAS GREAT."**

## • Robinson's speed boosts offense

Sport: Soccer

Year: Sophomore

**Achievement:** Dasan lettered in varsity soccer as a freshman. He scored 22 goals in the 1998 season. His traveling team, the Internationals, has won five National Indoor Championships.

**Teammate's Comment:** "It's great to play on the same team as Dasan. He's a great leader and you can learn a lot from him."  
—Andrew Schork

**Coach's Comment:** "For only being a sophomore he is a key player."  
—head coach Patrick Sweeney

**Favorite Sports Memory:** "My favorite memory is scoring my second and the final goal of a playoff game against Mentor in 1998."

**Future Plans:** Track in the spring.



Robinson attempts to dodge an opponent during a Raider victory. Robinson scored 22 goals as a freshman in 1998.



Dasan Robinson

**"DASAN IS A TOP PLAYER AND WE RELY HEAVILY ON HIM TO BE ONE OF OUR LEADING SCORERS."**  
—COACH SWEENEY

## YOUTH FROM PAGE 16

how far to take his game.

"I let it be his choice and I never pressure him," his father said.

School psychologist Eric Waag agrees with Slawson that parents are often the cause for an athlete's breakdown.

"Parents often try to live vicariously through their children, putting unnecessary pressure on their children," Waag said.

Waag believes that child athletes can either be very successful and happy or stressed out and overworked.

"Athletes can fear that their parents will be angry or disappointed if they don't play well and earn that trophy," Waag said. "On the other hand athletes like the Williams sisters are happy and well-adjusted. They can handle the pressure put on them by their parents and themselves."

"It takes coping skills to deal with the pressure, and some kids don't have those skills."

By starting sports as early as possible, many students believe that they gain an upper hand at earning a top spot on a varsity team at the high school.

The first competitive intermural sports in Shaker are offered at the middle school. However, these years may not be enough

to boost some athletes to the varsity level when they enter high school.

Senior Erin Sudow came to Shaker in the ninth grade from Agnon, a private Jewish school. In junior high Sudow played softball and ran track and field. She also played for the Beachwood recreation softball team.

When Sudow entered her freshman year at Shaker Heights High School she had full intent to try out for one of the varsity teams.

"I planned to try out until I realized the stakes were so high. I was intimidated because the teams were so much better than the ones at Agnon or Beachwood," Sudow said.

Freshman Katie Moore anticipated trying out for the field hockey team until she, too, concluded that the competition was too stiff.

"There are a lot of top players and I felt like the competition was too high. It just wasn't worth it," Moore said.

For students like Sudow and Moore, starting in junior high wasn't enough of a boost to propel them to want play a varsity sport at the high school.

For an athlete like Taubman an early start was the head start he needed.

"I'm happy to have started tennis when I did," Taubman said. "It's been worth it and I don't regret any choice I made."

## Rumbaugh, Burnley remembered

Glimmering on the radiant red helmets of each Raider football player this fall are two tiny decals that can barely be seen by the naked eye.

Roughly the size of a quarter, the crystalline decals rest on the flank of each team member's helmet and read "RB" in remembrance of former Raider football star Rashad Burnley, a 1997 grad who drowned in Toronto last July, and "AJR", in memory of deceased principal A. Jack Rumbaugh, who passed away in June.

Raider head coach Dave Sedmak said although the decals serve as a motivational tool, they impart meaning that stretches far

beyond football.

"The [decals] are a reminder of mortality," Sedmak said. "It's a shame that Rashad had to leave the earth so soon. He was what our program is all about: sacrifice, determination and attitude. This was just a small way of honoring him."

Similarly, in his 12-year tenure at Shaker Heights High School, Rumbaugh made his presence felt in the Raider program.

"We were very grateful to have a principal like Dr. Rumbaugh," Sedmak said. "He was very supportive to the football team, more

so than other principals usually are."

From the moment the team affixed the decals to the back of their helmets, the tiny memorials have had an emotional effect.

"The decals made us want to step our game up," said senior Steve Lovejoy, a free-safety for the 5-0 Raiders.

"Both people really meant a lot to the football team and the program."  
—Danny George

### Crew members head for Boston

Seven members of the Shaker crew team have

qualified to row in the Head of the Charles, the prestigious national rowing championships held for high schools, colleges and professionals.

"This [race] is really hard to get into," co-captain Emily Super said. "It is the biggest race open to high school teams."

The invitation to compete was extended to the Western Reserve Rowing Association, the governing association for Shaker and other area teams.

Super also said that return invitations to the Head of the Charles are hard to come by because so many good teams compete there.

Jenny Heisler

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*The Shakerite*

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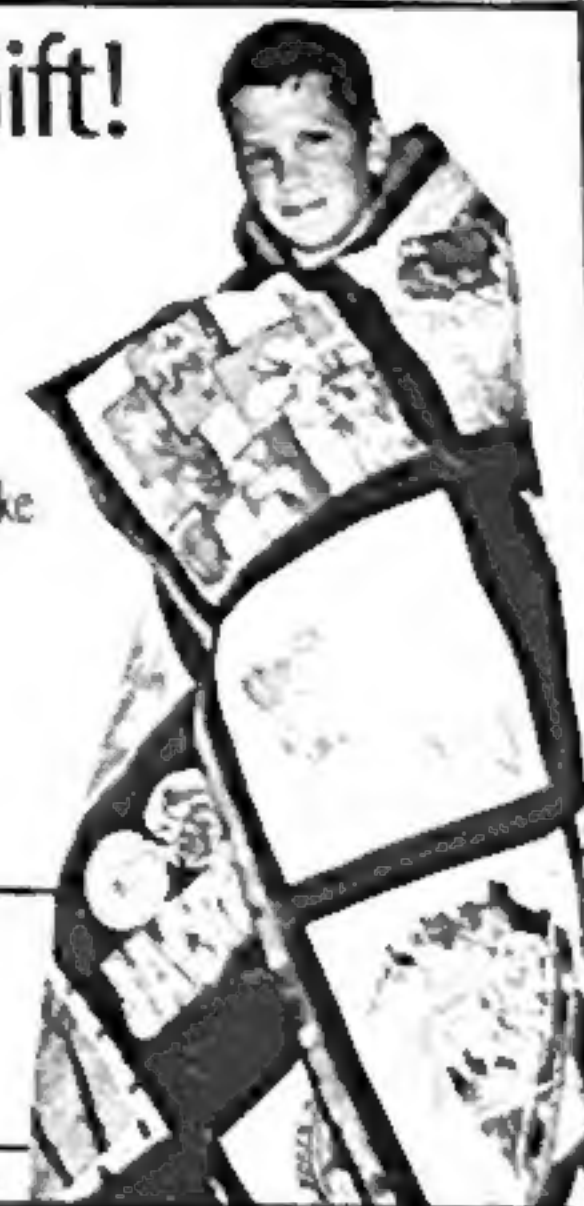
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# SPORTS

fall **UPDATE**



Raiders kick off with strong records. **SPORTS**, page 14

## How YOUNG IS TOO YOUNG TO TACKLE?

Early, intense sports participation can pay off, but not if pressure takes over

By Nicole Majorczyk  
Sports Co-editor

For most Shaker athletes sports have been a part of life since they were small children. Not unlike parents of tennis pros Venus and Serena Williams and golf star Tiger Woods, many Shaker parents have enrolled their kids in sports at young ages.

In contrast to the stereotype of greedy tennis parents, however, their motives are simply to give their children a head start in sports.

Junior Brian Taubman's parents had just that idea. Taubman has been playing tennis since the age of 5.

"My dad introduced me to tennis at a young age. He was

the one that got me started," Taubman said.

Tennis coach Allan Slawson fears that starting at a young age can sometimes be dangerous because parents can put too much pressure on their children to succeed.

"The real key is not a lot of pressure from an overzealous parent who wants their child to

be a superstar," Slawson said.

Fortunately, for Taubman, there was never any pressure from home.

"It was always my decision to play," Taubman said. "My dad never forced me to play."

Brian's father, Bruce Taubman, feels that his son should be the one to decide see **YOUTH**, page 15



An early start can give athletes a leg up on the competition later in their careers.

## Tennis serves 17-0 start

•Focus on singles, continued strength in doubles net wins

By Jenny Heister  
Sports Co-Editor

17-0 is not a bad start. Not a bad start at all.

Especially because it's one of the best beginnings to a season that women's tennis coach Allan Slawson has ever had.

"The season is going great," said Slawson, who has coached the women's team for 18 years.

Slawdog, as Slawson is called by his players, hopes the team's LEL title, earned by beating rival Cleveland

Heights, will spark several players to make it to the state tournament. The title is the seventh they've won this decade.

"This year we're so much better," said second-year varsity player Lauren Gibbons, a sophomore. "We've already beaten two teams we lost to last year."

Gibbons, who rotates with senior Cheryl Blackwell at second

and third singles, cited the team's victories over Medina and Magnificat. Gibbons feels the team has much more depth than last year, a specific goal they're trying to reach this year.

"Our goal was to solidify our wins this year, focusing on winning more singles matches," junior power singles player Liz Swary said. "We've always been good at doubles, but we wanted to concentrate on singles. So far, we've only lost five matches [of 36]."

Swary leads the team, filling the first singles position. Her consistent, strong wins against Magnificat and Mentor earned her The Plain Dealer Player of the Week

honors in early September. Swary, a varsity starter since her freshman year, aims to keep her record up to attempt to reach the state tournament for the second time. She and '99 graduate Kim Lyons played doubles at states last year.

"I just want to keep my record up and continue to compete well," Swary said. "I never ex-

pected to do this well individually. First singles is a hard position to fill."

Slawson recognizes the importance of team depth too.

"All seven girls are very important to the team," he said.

The doubles teams are just as strong as ever. Junior Traci Williams and freshman Amber Rucker rotate to play with senior Dashi Singham at first doubles. The combination of junior Sarah Morgenstern and either Williams or Rucker makes for a tough duo at second doubles.

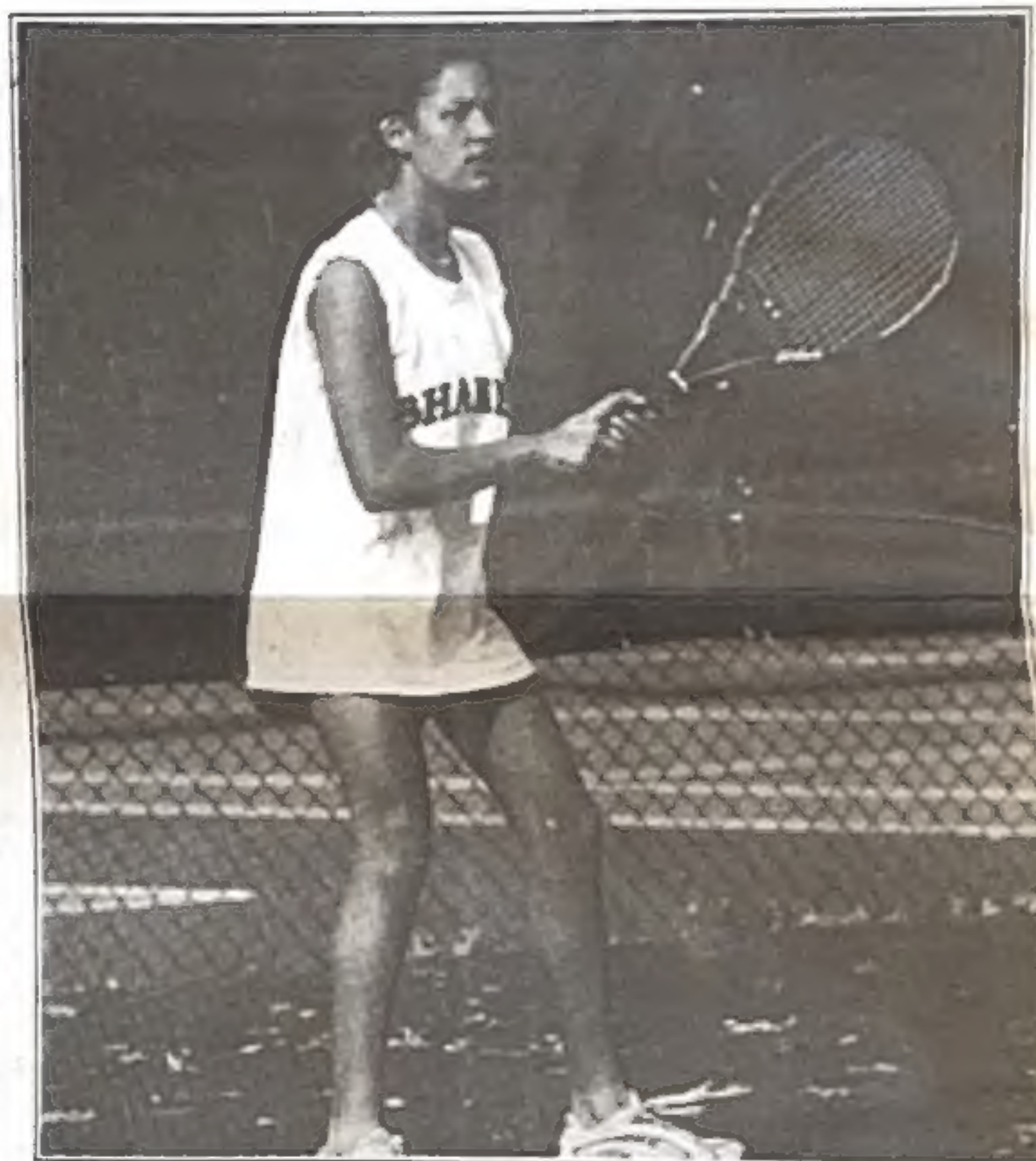
"We all worked really hard over the summer," Singham said. "And the fact that we only lost one person last year has helped us do this well. This is the best season I've played in."

After earning the LEL title last year, the team hopes to better the record and achieve higher titles this season.

"To beat the non-league teams would be really nice," Gibbons said.

The team expects challenges from Beachwood, Hathaway Brown, and Summit County foes Walsh Jesuit and Hudson.

"I just hope we advance further this year," Singham said.



Freshman Ally Gregg-Zellers prepares to take a shot during tennis practice. The women's tennis team is enjoying one of their best seasons ever.

## You CAN'T CATCH ME!

Junior running back and kick returner Jason Wright escapes the desperate grasp of a Mentor defender during the fourth quarter of Shaker's 21-10 defeat of the Cardinals. Mentor (twelfth-ranked in The Plain Dealer weekly regional poll) clashed with the Raiders (no. 8 in the PD) Sept. 25 on Red Tag Day. Shaker staved off a last-minute Mentor drive when junior Jameson Evans intercepted a pass near the Shaker goal line with 39 seconds to play and returned it the length of the field to seal a win for the men in red. The victory pushed the Raider record to 5-0.



David Meyers/The Shakerite

## Field hockey team makes the grade

By Rich Rund  
Staff reporter

The Raider field hockey team is thrashing its competition en route to a 4-1-1 record so far this season.

Why this onslaught of field hockey floggings?

"The team has a lot of depth," said head coach Linda Betley, who has been coaching the varsity team for 27 years.

"We have a team of quality players and a lot of experience," Betley said.

"We're able to substitute players in and out of the game if someone needs a break and still play to our fullest potential."

However, that depth couldn't overcome the loss of five key players suffering injuries and illnesses. The team suffered its first loss to Hathaway Brown, 3-1, Sept. 25.

The dominant team is lead by senior halfback and co-captain Lauren Markt and two-year co-captain, Kira Muehrcke, who plays wing. They attribute their winning ways to off-season



Stephanie Gaberik/The Shakerite

Senior Kira Muehrcke and junior Kelly Elliot get down to business during field hockey practice. The Raiders have lost only one game so far this season.

work, more running in practice and collaboration.

"We work well as a team," Muehrcke said.

Shaker's ultimate goal is a state championship. Tough teams such as Hawken, Laurel and Western Reserve are opponents to beat on the road to a



Stephanie Gaberik/The Shakerite

championship. Their last playoff accomplishment came three years ago when this year's seniors were freshmen. In 1996, the squad was district runner-up.

"We have the ability to go to states, but it's going to take a lot of hard work," said senior defender Lauren Gilbride.